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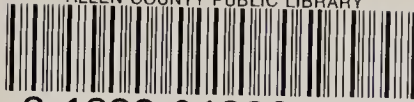
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A HISTORY OF  
THE HIGGES, *or* HIGGS FAMILY

OF  
SOUTH STOKE, in the County of OXFORD

AND OF  
THATCHAM, in the County of BERKS

AND THEIR DESCENDANTS;

BEING ALSO A RECORD OF ONE OF THE  
YEOMAN FAMILIES OF ENGLAND

BY  
WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS, F.S.G.

GREATLY ASSISTED BY  
THE LATE FREDERICK HIGGS, ESQRE.

AND  
Miss MARTHA ADELINE HIGGS

TOGETHER WITH A RECORD OF VARIOUS BRANCHES OF  
THE HIGGS FAMILY IN THESE AND OTHER COUNTIES  
OF ENGLAND, IN THE DOMINIONS "BEYOND THE SEAS",  
AND IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

LONDON  
ADLARD & SON, LIMITED

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## PREFACE

GENEALOGY, or family history, is to many—in these modern days—a subject which does not appeal. The rush of life in the present time, with its problems, its difficulties, its noise, its commercialism, seems to shut out any desire for a vision of bygone days, and a knowledge of those who have played their part in other times in making us what we are to-day.

Some regard the study of genealogy as foolishness, claiming that it is what we are to-day alone which is worthy of consideration, overlooking the factors in the past which unite in making each one of us what we are, to a very great extent, in the present. It is well to stop for a few moments, in this present-day rush, to consider the influences, both for good and evil, which come from our many ancestors—whether we acknowledge the fact or not. The vision will do us no harm. It will convey to our minds either a deep sense of gratitude for the great help which comes to us to-day from those of our ancestors who have lived honourable, true and noble lives, or will serve as a beacon warning us, as mariners upon Life's sea, of the rocks which have caused some of our antecedents sorrow, trouble and suffering. This vision will also show to each one of us the tremendous responsibility which rests upon us as touching our own lives in their influence upon generations yet unborn.

No thoughtful man, or woman, who will stop to consider the children born to any parents, will deny the influences suggested; influences coming down to the present frequently from quite remote ancestry. Few children in one family are alike; they may bear a family resemblance, but in disposition, in temperament and individual character, how dissimilar! These characteristics come to each one of us down the centuries through the blood which runs in our veins, and therefore marriage alliance is no light thing. It is a matter of far more serious consideration than is often the case.

The history of the HIGGS Family of South Stoke, in the county of Oxfordshire, and of Thatcham in the county of Berks, together with a vast amount of matter relative to those of this patronymic in other counties and countries, has been written as a record of one of the yeoman families of England. The yeomen of England have, through the centuries, been the backbone of the country, and have—living in close association with Nature—been for the most part men of sterling worth. As a class they have provided the country with some of the most prominent men in both Church and State, and in this the HIGGS family has played a worthy part. The record of this particular yeoman family has been gathered from a mass of material collected by myself and the late Mr. FREDERICK HIGGS of Streatham, Surrey, who spent many years of his life in genealogical, topographical and historical research, and whose intention it was to have published

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this book, at least in part, had he lived to complete his task ; whilst that of the American HIGGSES, and some of their descendants, has been compiled by Miss M. A. HIGGS of Raleigh, North Carolina—a genealogist of repute in the United States, who has united with us her efforts to make this book as complete a record as possible, instead of publishing a separate work as was at first her intention. The aim has been to record as faithful a history as possible of the HIGGES, or HIGGS, family settled in the middle of the sixteenth century at South Stoke, in Oxfordshire, giving an account of that branch of the family who settled in the Berkshire parish of Thatcham from that place, with some record of those HIGGSES resident at an early date in many other villages and hamlets in the counties of Oxford and Berks. An effort has also been made to show the close relationship, which has unquestionably been proven in many instances, between these various branches of an ancient stock settled in the Cotswold Hills and the country adjacent to Gloucester, as well as to preserve a record of all of this patronymic—not necessarily of a common origin—found at an early period dwelling in other counties and now widely spread all over the world.

A whole chapter has been devoted to the life of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS of South Stoke (who was Chaplain to the unfortunate *Queen Elizabeth of Bohemia* for many years, and later a Chaplain to her more unfortunate brother, *King Charles I*), for some time Dean of Lichfield, and a Protestant clergyman who greatly suffered during the Civil War.

I have endeavoured to show how religious strife, and enmity, has been at the root of most of the troubles through which this yeoman family has passed in the various centuries, and also to give some idea of the conditions of life during each period of English history. In the religious struggles, as well as in other matters, the pendulum has swung from one extreme to the other, the one being no more beneficial to the people than the opposite, and in the old saying, "History repeats itself", there is ample food for thought in the twentieth century !

In the following lines, by an unknown author, gleaned many years ago from the 'Records of the Anglo-Norman House of Glanville', by Wm. Urmston S. Glanville-Richards, there is a truth, cutting like a two-edged sword, which is well to realize in connection with the study of genealogy :

" What profit pedigree, or long descent,  
From farre-fetcht blood, or painted monument  
Of thy great-grandsire's visage ? 'tis most sad  
To trust unto the worth another had,  
For keeping up thy fame, which else would fall,  
If besides birth there be no worth at all.  
For, who counts him a gentleman whose grace  
Is all in name, and otherwise is base ?  
Or, who will honour him whose Honour's shame,  
Noble in nothing but a noble name ?  
'Tis better to be meanly born and good,  
Than one unworthy of his noble blood ;  
Though all thy walls shine with thy pedigree,  
Yet VIRTUE ONLY MAKES NOBILITY !  
Then, to be worthy of thy fathers' name,  
Learn out the good they did, and do the same,  
For, if thou bear'st their arms and not their fame,  
Those emblems of their worth, will be thy shame ".

We have a just right to be proud of the honourable record of those from whom we come, but unless we follow in their steps, their very record but shows how far short we have come in the attainment of what they achieved.





Let us not forget that **everyone has a lineage**; the only difference is that some have a record and some have not, and only in a right use of the knowledge we may have is real benefit to be gained.

One average human body is as valuable in its component parts as another. Dr. Allan Craig, Associate Director of the American College of Surgeons, during the course of a discussion as to whether medical science and religion were diametrically opposing forces before the Congress of the College of Surgeons, recently asserted:

"Consider the average 150 lb. body of a man from its chemical aspect. . . . It contains *lime* enough to whitewash a fair-sized chicken coop; *phosphorus* enough to make 2200 matches, and a pinch of *sulphur*; *sugar* enough to fill a small shaker; *iron* to make three tenpenny nails; plus *water*. The total value of these ingredients is 98 cents (4s. 1d.), or about 60 cents (2s. 6d.) a hundredweight 'on the hoof'. Yet, the insurance company places the economic value of a man at \$5000 (£1000)! How do they account for the difference of \$4999.02 (£999 15s. 11d.)?"

"IT IS THE SPIRIT WITHIN HIM that makes the man supreme in the world, and allows him to control materialistic things. Medical science and religion are complementary to each other. One always feels sorry for the individual who cannot visualize anything in life beyond what he can see in a test-tube, or under a microscope! Who can appreciate the spirit within?"

So, whilst some may say, "What's the use of Family History? We are all descended from a gardener who lost his place for stealing his Master's fruit", which is perfectly true in the common history of man, yet in studying the history of families of mankind, and the individual characters who go to make, and maintain, the family history, we find that *there is a vast difference* in such histories of families, and of men, and *that difference is the spirit and the character*.

The endeavour has therefore been to show the spirit, and the character, of those who have contributed their part in the making of the history of the HIGGS family as a whole; and whether strong Protestants within the Established Church, or dissenting from that Church, the great majority have played their part in making an honourable family record, and have surely set an example worthy to be followed by subsequent generations.

TO THE MEMORY OF ALL SUCH this book has been written. In particular, however, as a very humble tribute, in memory of the lives, and personalities, of THREE COUSINS of the Thatcham Branch, grandchildren of the late CALEB HIGGS, Yeoman of Fursedown Farm, in the Parish of Streatham, Surrey, and of Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, Berkshire, namely:

1. **SARA**, daughter of the late CALEB HIGGS of Cheam, and Malden, Surrey, who as the wife of JOHN TURNER RAE of Stamford Hill, London, became the founder of "The Girls' Guild of Good Life" at Hoxton, and of the "Queen Mary Hostel" there. For just sixty years she worked unceasingly for the uplifting of the lives of the girls and women of that thickly populated district in N.E. London, and of her life it has been truly said, "She was a woman of great prayer; a woman of great love; one who believed that in *every* human heart there is something of God", and that "Few priests in London ever have received such confidences as were given to her" (*ide* Chapter VIII).





THE LATE  
JOHN  
TURNER  
RAE  
OF  
STAMFORD  
HILL,  
LONDON.



SARA, WIFE  
OF JOHN TURNER  
RAE AND DAU.  
OF CALIB HIGGS  
OF WORCESTER  
PARK FARM,  
CHEAM,  
CO. SURREY,  
BY DORCAS  
JENNER HIS  
WIFE.



THE UNVEILING OF THE WAR MEMORIAL AT STOCKWELL, 3 APRIL, 1922.

WILLIAM HIGGS	H.R.H. PRINCESS ALICE	HIS WORSHIP
OF STOCKWELL.	LOOKING TOWARDS THE	THE MAYOR OF
	CHILDREN OF THE	LAMBETH.
	SPURGEON ORPHAN HOMES.	

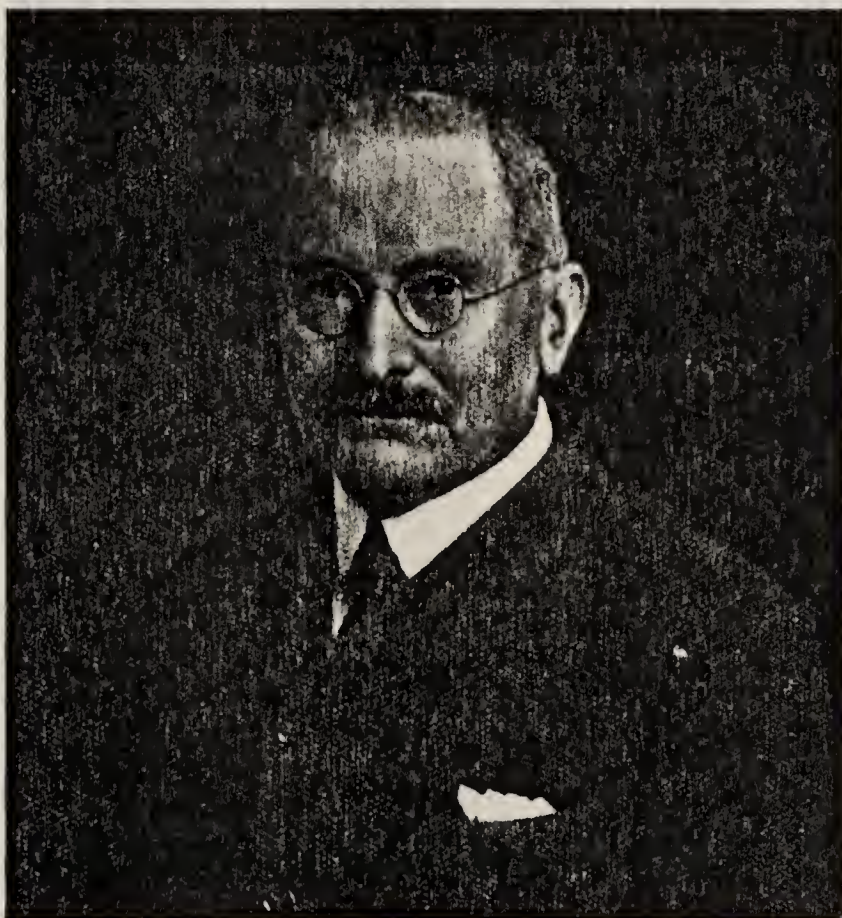
2. **WILLIAM**, my father, who succeeded his father WILLIAM HIGGS as Treasurer of the "Spurgeon Orphan Homes" at Stockwell, Surrey, and whose life-work may be





said to have been the care of the widows and orphans connected with those Homes, of which his father was one of the co-founders. Like his cousin, SARA RAE, he shrank from any eulogium, but of his life the Rev. J. STUART HOLDEN, D.D., Vicar of St. Paul's Church, Portman Square, London, where he held office for some years before he passed away, said : " His debt to God he realized was payable at the bank of human nature, and hence his readiness to labour in any cause which made for the extension of God's Kingdom, and the betterment, and happiness of human life". " What accounted, what accounts for such a life of purity and love, such unblemished character, such constant fidelity in every relationship of life, such a quiet, glowing, radiant, confident faith ? " asked Dr. HOLDEN at his funeral service, 21 January, 1924 ; and the answer, in part, was given, " His simple faith in the Christ of the Bible". He was a man dearly loved and respected by all with whom he came in contact because of his great sense of justice ; his great humility of character ; and his far-sighted vision, which saw beneath and beyond the bounds of Party, of Race, or of Creed (*vide* Chapter X).

3. **FREDERICK**, eldest surviving son of the late GEORGE HIGGS of Streatham, Surrey, and ANN SMITH CORDEROY, his wife, who did so much towards the compiling of



*Frederick Higgs*

FREDERICK HIGGS, F.I.O.B., OF STREATHAM HILL, CO. SURREY, 1858-1928.

the record of the HIGGS family of Thatcham, and the CORDEROYS—with their descendants—of that Berkshire parish, with the one aim in view that the printed history so recorded, giving the high example set by the lives of many, may be an incentive to the present generation, and generations yet to be, to follow in their steps, and where human failure and error is visible, that such may prove a warning. That eminent genealogist, Mr. GEORGE F. T. SHERWOOD, F.S.G., who knew Mr.



FREDERICK HIGGS and much respected his character, said, " He was a typical Berkshire man ". He did a very great deal in a quiet, unobtrusive way to assist others in many directions, and in connection with the printing of this work his passing was a heavy blow (*vide* Chapter XI).

In conclusion I wish to tender my most sincere thanks to all who have in any way assisted me in compiling this record, and to those who have so greatly helped by underwriting the cost I offer my deepest appreciation, for had it not been for such assistance given it would have been almost impossible to have printed this mass of matter. Likewise to those whose names appear in the subscribers' list my heartfelt thanks are extended. Many of the illustrations appearing in this volume could not possibly have been given had not the cost of same been borne by the various branches interested, and the co-operation thus afforded has enabled me, as the general compiler, to make the work, as a whole, so much more valuable than it could otherwise have been. For errors and omissions in so laborious a task I ask the kind indulgence of those interested in these pages. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, but none of us is infallible. May the information contained in this work prove of great assistance to those who may desire to know more relative to their own particular branch. It will at least serve as a guide for future research, and save duplication of effort and expense.

W. MILLER HIGGS.

Green Court,  
Goring-on-Thames, Oxon ;  
October, 1933.





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Those whose names are marked by an asterisk have greatly assisted the publication of this work by either underwriting, to some extent, the heavy cost of printing, or contributing blocks for the illustrations in a number of the chapters, thereby making these of more general interest. Some have most generously helped in both ways.

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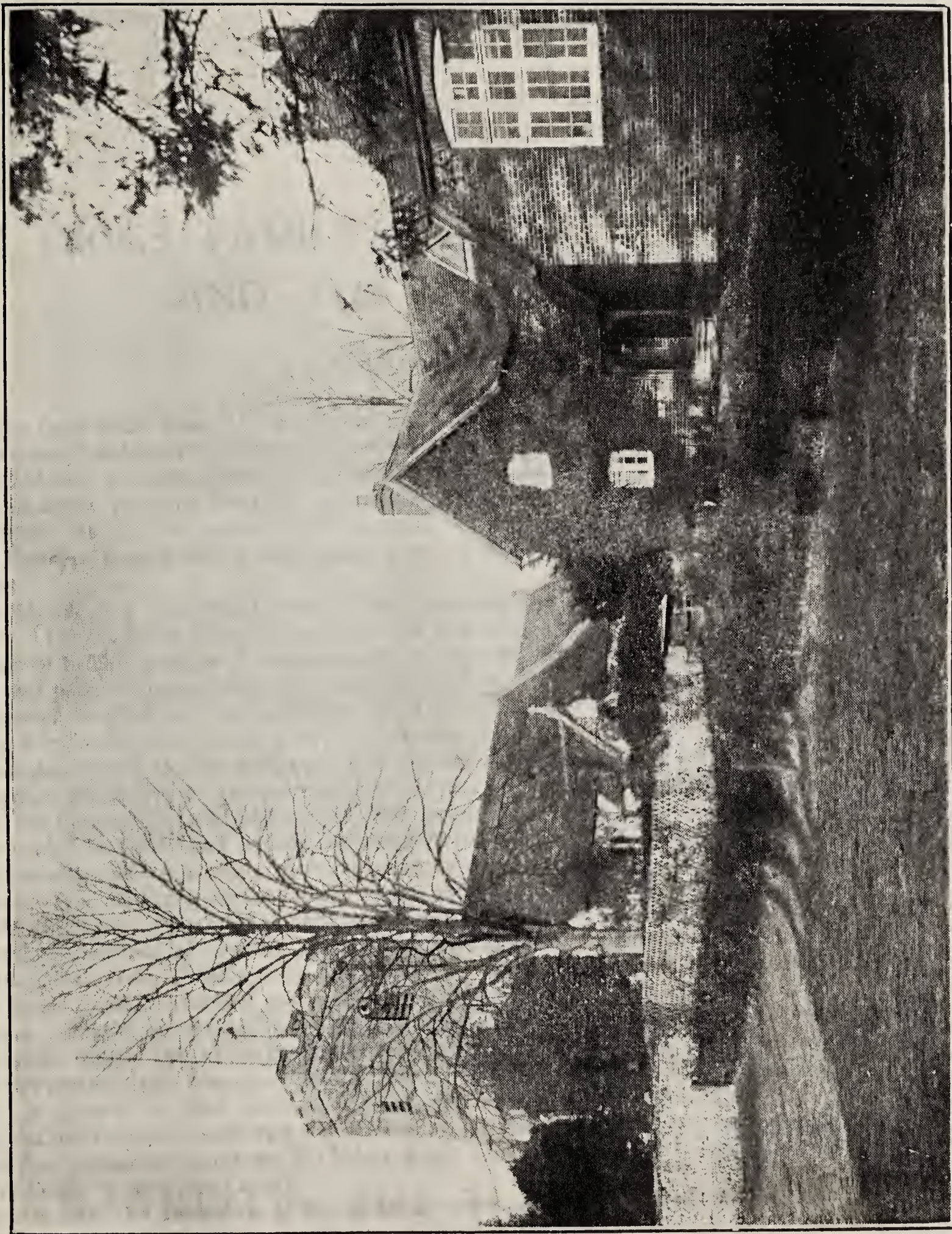
With a statement of facts in relation to the lawful use of Armorial Insignia, the use of the terms " Gentleman ", " Esquire ", " Yeoman " and " Husbandman ".

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# THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SOUTH STOKE AND THATCHAM

## CHAPTER I

ON the Oxfordshire bank of the winding, peaceful River Thames, between Wallingford and Goring, and but a short distance from the latter place, lies the quaint little village of Stoke Abbas, or South Stoke as it is called to-day. Across the river from South Stoke, just below Streatley, rests the picturesque village of Basildon,\* in the county of Berks, which, like South Stoke—as well as many other places along the banks of old Father Thames—became the home of many branches of the yeoman family of HIGGES, or HIGGS.

The old village of South Stoke† cannot have changed a great deal during the last four centuries. Its one main street running parallel with the river, though now possessing a number of brick houses, still contains many of the attractive ancient homes of half-timber and plaster construction, with their thatched or tiled roofs. Among the more modern brick buildings may be mentioned the Vicarage, in its own attractive grounds, lying back from the main street—between it and the river—whilst upon the east side of the main street, next to, and on the south side of the churchyard, is the schoolhouse of modern date, which Nature is endeavouring to beautify, as will be seen in the illustration.

The old Parish Church of St. Andrew, built of flint and stone, with its Gothic and square-headed windows and square embattled tower, surmounted by a flag-pole and ancient weathercock, is a well-proportioned sanctuary which has stood through many centuries. It is evident from the interior of the belfry and from a close examination of the walls, that many of the ancient mural tablets and gravestones have been moved from their original positions, or covered up by modern workmanship in periods of alteration more than restoration. This was the case in relation to the mural tablets in the chancel to the HIGGS family, which had been removed from their original settings to the walls of the tower. They were replaced in the chancel at the expense of various members of the family about 1903. On the north side of the church is an old monastic house of flint, brick and plaster, later known as “Barre Place”, and to-day designated “The Manor Farm”, in the rear of which is one of the very few remaining great brick pigeon-cotes, wherein at one time the monks kept hundreds of birds as a food supply. A few years ago a pond, just across the road from the Manor Farm, since filled in, went by the name of “Barre Pond” (pronounced Barr).

Shortly after the dissolution of the monasteries this ancient domicile came into the possession of WALTER BARTON, Gentleman, of Reading, Co. Berks. He also held land

\* *Vide* Part II, “Higgs Family of Basildon, Co. Berks”.

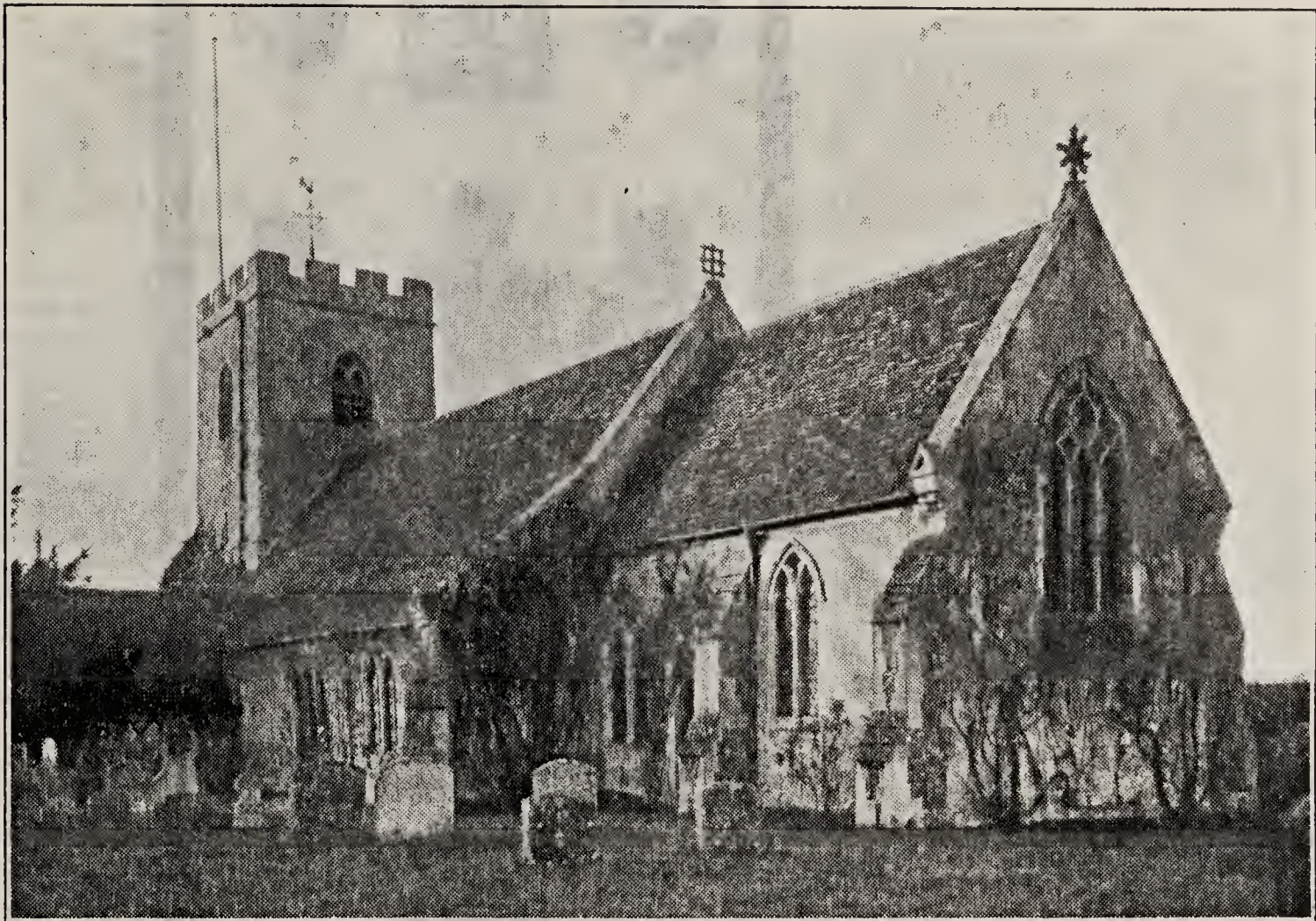
† *Vide* Part II, “Higgs Family of South Stoke, Oxon”.







at Streatley in this county, and at Shiplake in the county of Oxford, and in fact the ancient manor house in connection with the Shiplake Rectory\* was occupied by him. His father was THOMAS À BARTON, of Barton, in Weobley, in the county of Hereford, described as "Esquire" in the Heralds' Visitation of that county in the year 1569, where his marriage is recorded to CATHERINE, one of the thirteen daughters of SIMON (later Sir SYMON or SYMOND) MYLBOURNE† of Tillington, in Burghill, Herefordshire (and of Icomb Place, Co. Gloucester, in right of his wife JANE, the daughter and co-heir of RALPH BASKERVILLE by ANN, daughter and co-heir of Sir JOHN BLAKETT of Icomb).



ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, STOKE ABBAS, OR SOUTH STOKE, OXON.

The family of BARTON was one of considerable influence at this period, and owned land in Weobley, Co. Hereford, Streatley, Hurley and Easthampstead, Co. Berks. HARRYE BARTON, gentleman, of Streatley, the eldest son of THOMAS À BARTON, married ALIS,‡ sister of ROBERT MARTEN, or MARTIN, of Evelton, and by her had, among other issue, a son GRIFFITH (or GRIFFIN) BARTON, Gentleman (in Haine's 'Monumental Brasses', vol. ii, f. 16, he is termed "Esquire"), who, under his uncle WALTER BARTON's will, dated 27 April, 1537, and proved 1538 (P.C.C. Reg., "Dyngely", f. 17), inherited all the interest his uncle had "in the Lordship of South Stoke and the Parsonage of the same",

\* *Vide* Augmentation Office, 'Particulars for Leases: Elizabeth', vol. i, f. 42, Oxon, also 'History of Shiplake', by EMILY J. CLIMENSON (1894), f. 202.

† Sir SYMOND MYLBOURNE, son of JOHN MYLBOURNE, Esquire, by ELIZABETH, daughter and heiress of WALTER DEVEREUX, was lineally descended from King HENRY II. This would give every descendant of the marriage of NICHOLAS HIGGS and MARY BARTON a Royal Descent from that monarch (*vide* Tabulation given), as well as all who can show descent from the co-heirs of Sir SIMON MYLBOURNE.

‡ 'MS. Ashmole,' 852, p. 191, "Visitation of Berks." After HARRYE BARTON's decease his widow ALIS married FRANCIS WELLSBOURNE of West Hanney, Co. Berks.







and it would appear that he went to live at "Barre Place", South Stoke, soon after his uncle WALTER BARTON's decease. GRIFFITH BARTON\* also inherited his father's lands in Streatley, Co. Berks. At Streatley† none of the old and interesting memorials remain which were erected to the ancient families of that place, as when that church was "re-

On the left at his right arm stands ALICE his first wife, *widow* of HARRYE BARTON of Streatley, Berks, sister of ROBERT MARTIN of Elvington, par., of Goring, Oxon, and grandmother of MARY BARTON who married NICHOLAS HIGGES.



This illustration and two others reproduced from "Monumental Brasses of Berkshire," by kind permission of the compiler, H. T. MORLEY, Esq., F.S.P., F.R.S.A.

FRANCIS WELLSBOURNE, 1602. (Male Effigy 27 inches high.)  
Brass in West Hanney Ch., Berks.

stored" (?) some years ago we are informed that these fine old brasses, etc., were either removed or buried beneath the modern work—the then Vicar taking no interest in such relics of the past—with the exception of one brass to the BURTON family,‡ curiously from Weobley, Co. Hereford, and one which had intermarried with the family of BARTON and another (now in the Vestry) to GRIFFIN CLARKE, Gentleman, of Streatley, who died

\* Will of HARRYE BARTON, 1548 (6 Ed. VI) ("Arch. Berks. Reg." "B", fo. 71).

† Vide "History of St. Lawrence Church, Reading" (Rev. CHARLES KERRY, 1883), fo. 135.

‡ Vide "Harl. MSS.", No. 1015, ll. 71b and 73.





in 1583 (*vide* Pedigree of Barton). However, in the Church of St. Lawrence, Reading, there remains a very interesting brass to WALTER BARTON,\* Gentleman, the aforesaid uncle of GRIFFITH, who died 25 April, 1538. This is a beautifully executed brass, let into a Purbeck marble gravestone, and represents the said WALTER BARTON at full length, robed in a gown of the period, with the following inscription beneath :

“ Here Undr this Mrble stone lieth Walter barton, gent. which desesid ye XXV day of Apryll in the yere of our Lord God. MLVCCXXXVIII whos Soule And all Crysten Soules Jhu Have Mercy AMEN.

“ Celeste quoda : vita qui duxerat ista : vermbz ecce states : ia requiescit humo.”



THE GREAT BRICK PIGEON-COTE, WITH ITS FOUR-GABLED ROOF, AT SOUTH STOKE, IN THE FARMYARD OF OLD “ BARRE PLACE ”, NOW “ THE MANOR FARM ”.

There is an iron ring in the stone flagged floor, and local tradition states that it was to this ring that a pair of white mules which the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS used to drive were tethered. The square tower of St. Andrew's Church is seen in the background, as well as the rear of the old monastic residence.

WALTER BARTON† did much for the Church of St. Lawrence, as also did his wife ALICE, who died in 1545.

It was at South Stoke that MARY the daughter, and co-heir with her sisters, of GRIFFITH BARTON, Gentleman, married NICHOLAS HIGGES,‡ or HIGGS, at St. Andrew's

\* *Vide* ‘ History of St. Lawrence Church, Reading ’ (Rev. CHARLES KERRY, 1883), fo. 134.

† *Loc. cit.*, fo. 134.

‡ *Vide* Part II “ South Stoke Parish Register ”.







Here under this stonelye stone lieth Walter Barton gent which dyed  
the day of Aprill in the year of our lord which is 1583 on  
whos soule and all thair soules this hath mercy amen  
Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen Amen

The Rev. CHARLES KERRY in his "History of the Municipal Church of St. Lawrence, Reading" (1883), says: "This monument is perhaps the most interesting in the county. Two years ago it lay on its ledger in front of the altar, having been removed here from St. John's Chancel in 1848". (*Vide* 'History of the Municipal Church of St. Lawrence, Reading', fo. 134.)



Here lyeth buried y body of Griffin Clarke  
Sonne of Thomas Clarke of Streatley and  
of Elizabeth his wife which Griffin dyed  
in the yere of our lord GOD 1583.

Brass to GRIFFIN CLARKE, Gentleman, in the Vestry of Streatley Parish Church, son of THOMAS and ELIZABETH CLARKE and first cousin of GRIFFITH HIGGS of Barre Place, South Stoke.





# PEDIGREE OF THE BARTON FAMILY.

**THOMAS à BARTON** =  
of BARTON in WEOBLEY in Co.  
HEREFORD, ESQUIRE (according  
to the Visitation of HEREFORDSHIRE in  
1569 f. 91.)

CATHERINE, dau. & coheire of  
**SIR SYMON MYLBORNE**, of TILLINGTON  
in BURGHILL, and of ICOMB PLACE, Co. GLOSTER  
(in right of his wife JANE, dau. & heire of  
**RALFE BASKERVILE** by ANN dau. of  
SIR JOHN BLAKETT of ICOMB) Sir John Blakett  
died 1431 vide Harl. MSS 615 ff 23b & 24  
" " 1545 ff 35b & 39b.

CATHERINE MYLBORNE was 14th. in descent  
from King HENRY II. Vide: <sup>ROYAL DESCENT OF</sup> GRIFFITH HIGGS  
SOUTH 3 STOKES

**HARRY BARTON**  
of STREATLEY Co. BERKS  
Will pr. 1548 (6 Ed. VI)  
Archd. Berks Book Bf 71.

He held considerable  
lands in STREATLEY Co. BERKS  
and in WEOBLEY in the  
county of HEREFORD

ALIS dau. of

MARTEN, or  
MARTIN of  
EVERTON & Sister  
of ROBERT MARTIN.

Upon HARRY BARTON'S  
decease she married  
FRANCES WELLSBOURNE  
of West HANNEY Co. BERKS.  
who died in 1602  
æt. 76. There is a brass  
in West HANNEY CH.

**WALTER BARTON** = ALICE GRIFFITH  
BARTON

Gentleman of READING &  
STREATLEY Co. BERKS, of  
SHIPLAKE & SOUTH STOKES  
Co. OXFORD.  
In 1526 he resided at the  
old RECTORY MANSION at  
SHIPLAKE, OXON.

mentioned in  
her husband's  
Will. She died  
1545. Bur. in  
S. LAWRENCE CH.

Will dated 27 April 1537, pr. 1538

Apparently he had no children  
He left all his interest in  
his lands at SOUTH STOKES &  
the parsonage of the same  
to his Nephew GRIFFIN or GRIFFITH  
BARTON. There is a fine brass  
to his memory in S. LAWRENCE CH. READING

**MARGARET** = **ROBERT**  
**BURITON**

Gentleman of  
HEREFORD ESTE  
Co. HEREFORD.  
Armiger.  
Harl. MSS 5867

**WILLIAM BURITON**, Gentleman  
Mayor of READING 1547

**PERYN** = **WALTER**  
**BLOUNT**

A dau.  
who nan  
of the House JOHN  
of RYNDON. GOMOND  
Harl. MSS 615 Byford  
ff 33b & 34 Harl. MSS  
615 ff 63b &  
64.

**GRIFFITH or GRIFFIN**

**BARTON**, Gentleman of  
BARRE PLACE, SOUTH STOKES  
OXON. (which ancient monastic  
house he inherited under the Will  
of his uncle WALTER BARTON)  
also of STREATLEY, HURLEY and  
EAST HAMPSTEAD Co. BERKS &  
of WEOBLEY Co. HEREFORD.

In Haine's Monumental Brasses  
Vol. II f. 16, he is designated  
"Esquire". Will pr 1579 (P.C.C.  
Arundel f 10) Overseers his  
Sons-in-law: Witnesses: HILLIARY  
FISHWICKE, JOHN HIGGES, THO<sup>2</sup>  
BRILL & NICHOLAS POIRE. He  
left SIX DAUGHTERS CO HEIRES.

**HENRY BARTON** = **ANNE**

mentioned in the Will of  
his Uncle WALTER BARTON  
he inherited his Uncle's Interest  
in his leasehold property in  
SHIPLAKE, OXON. He probably  
lived at WHITCHURCH and was  
the same HENRY BARTON who  
with JOHN BRAMER were  
collectors for the Poor for that  
parish in 1590

Vide: "History of WHITCHURCH"  
by the Rev. John SLATTER M.A.  
Julio 82.

**FRANCES**  
mar. to

**HENRY PASLOWE**  
Note: A HENRY PASLOWE  
with FRANCIS ASTELL on  
1 July 1667 made the  
Inventory of the goods  
of one WILLIAM HIGGS  
of S. STOKES OXON, whose  
Will was dated 5 June  
1667 & pr. at HENLEY  
OXON., 22 OCTOBER  
1667.  
Berks Will.

**ELIZABETH**  
she died 1598

bur. at  
STREATLEY  
M. I.

**GRIFFIN**  
CLARKE  
Brass in Vestry  
STREATLEY CH. died 1583

**THOMAS**  
CLARKE

Gent. of  
STREATLEY  
with little  
doubt a brother  
of JOHN CLARKE  
of ARDINGTON  
Co. BERKS.

**AGNES**  
CLARKE  
ELIZABETH  
CLARKE

**ALES = KIRTON** **ANNE**

Note: WILLIAM KIRTON  
of grandson of ALLAN  
KIRTON (35 Ed III) &  
ancestor of the KIRTONS  
of THORPE MANDEVILLE  
married  
MARGERY dau. & heire of  
WILLIAM MILBORNE  
Vide: Vis. Northampton 1564  
ff 161B

**MARGARET**  
CLARKE  
DANCASTLE  
of the GRANGE  
of SHAW Co. BERKS.

**JOHN**  
DANCASTLE

tr. at  
of WELLHOUSE OXON  
Parish of . 1558  
SHAW. 20 Oct.  
Co. BERKS

**JOHN**  
DANCASTLE  
of S. STOKES

**MARY = NIC.**  
HOLAS

HIGGS  
of  
S. STOKES  
OXON.

**GRIFFITH HIGGS**

of BARRE PLACE, S. STOKES  
which he inherited under the Will  
of his grandfather GRIFFITH BARTON

**SARA d. of ROBERT**  
**PAYN** of CAVERSHAM

Co. Oxford

**MARGARET = WILLIAM**  
**PALMER**

NUMEROUS OTHER ISSUE





## THE PATRONYMIC of HIGGES

This old British Surname unquestionably finds its origin, in many instances, in the Anglo-Saxon *HYGE* a personal name meaning "Courage". *HYGE* was a common Anglo-Saxon *prothème* occurring in *HYGEBEORHT*, *HYGEBORN*, *HYGEFRITH*, *HYGELAC*, *HYGERED*, *HYGEWINE*, *HYGEWULF*, etc., & it would be strange if it had not survived as a *monothème*—so states that eminent authority upon Surnames in the British Isles—*M<sup>rs</sup> C. L'ESTRANGE EWEN* in a letter to the compiler of this family history, under date of 8 January 1932. It is improbable that this Surname had the terminal *-S-* before the thirteenth century when the English form of genitive case endings—*ES*, *IS*, *YS*, or *S*, came into official use and meant "Son of" until becoming a part of the Surname itself.

The earliest forms of this Surname in the 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> centuries were *HYGGE*, *HIGGE*, *HIGE*, *HEIGGE*, *HEYGEYS*, *HEIGHES*, *HEYGHEZ*, *HEGHES*, *HYGGIS*, *HIGGYS*, *HUGGES*, *HEGGES*, *HEGGYS*, & *HIGGES*

Arms recorded in *Burke's Encyclopædia of Armoury* as in use by a family of *HEYGEYS* (no county given) "*ARGENT: A CHEVRON BETWEEN 3 DEMY DRAGONS COUPED AND ERECT\_VERT*"



Arms recorded in the history of the County of *HAMPSHIRE*, in use by a family of *HEIGHES*, or *HEGHES*; land owners at *BINSTED* & other places in 1268 (52 HENRY III) "*SABLE: A CHEVRON BETWEEN 3 BOARS' HEADS ARG.*" Vide: *DE GRAY BIRCH SEALS*—*Brit. Mus.*



This form of the name continued with this family until the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, and into the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Arms recorded upon a *Tudor Roll of Arms*—*Temp: HENRY VI (1421-1471)* Vide: *Harl. MSS. 2169*, *British Museum* in use by one *SYMOND HEGGYS* (no county given) but presumably of *GLOUCESTERSHIRE*, where one *SIMON HIGGES* was living near *CHELTENHAM* in 1327 & in all probability his ancestor. "*ARGENT: A CHEVRON BETWEEN 3 BUCKS, LODGED GULES.*"



The form of the spelling in the County of *GLOUCESTER* & in fact in most all of the Counties where the name is found is *HIGGES* from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries when the *E* was omitted and the Surname took its modern form of *HIGGS*.

### MOTTO

*FIDE ET FORTITUDINE*

USED BY  
The HIGGES of COLESBOURNE

This Coat of Arms was confirmed to the use of *THOMAS HIGGES* of *COLESBOURNE*, Co *GLOUCESTER* Esquire, & Lord of the Manors of *COLESBOURNE* & *CHEDWORTH* and his descendants in 1623 with the Crest—"*A BUCK'S HEAD GULES ATTIED OR, PIERCED THROUGH THE NECK WITH AN ARROW, SHAFT OF THE SECOND HEADED OR, FEATHERED ARGENT.*"



These arms and crest are found however—in use for many generations—by families of *HIGGS* in *BERKSHIRE*, *DEVONSHIRE*, *GLOUCESTERSHIRE*, *OXFORDSHIRE*, *WORCESTERSHIRE*, etc., whose pedigrees are not recorded in the books of the *COLLEGE of ARMS*. Vide: *Part II "Conclusion" Chapter* for full information upon the subject of "*The Right to Armorial Bearings*."

The descendants of *CALEB HIGGS* of *COLD ASH*, in the parish of *THATCHAM*, Co *BERKS* are entitled to the ancient Arms of the *HIGGES* of *GLOUCESTERSHIRE* (which were in use by earlier generations of *HIGGS*



in *THATCHAM* & in *SOUTH STOKE OXON*) but with the additional charge of a *White Rose* upon the chevron & upon the base of the bucks neck in their Crest. The old motto—*FIDE ET FORTITUDINE* "By Faith & with fortitude" remains unchanged.

Their pedigree is recorded in the books of the *College of Arms*.







Church on 20 October, 1558, during the last year of the terrible reign of Queen Mary, throughout which religious persecution had been at its height, and not many miles distant at Oxford, RIDLEY, Bishop of London, and LATIMER, Bishop of Worcester—the greatest preacher of his day—had lately died at the stake together. The country had been plunged into war with France, and only a year previous to this marriage, Calais, which had been a possession for two hundred years, was lost.

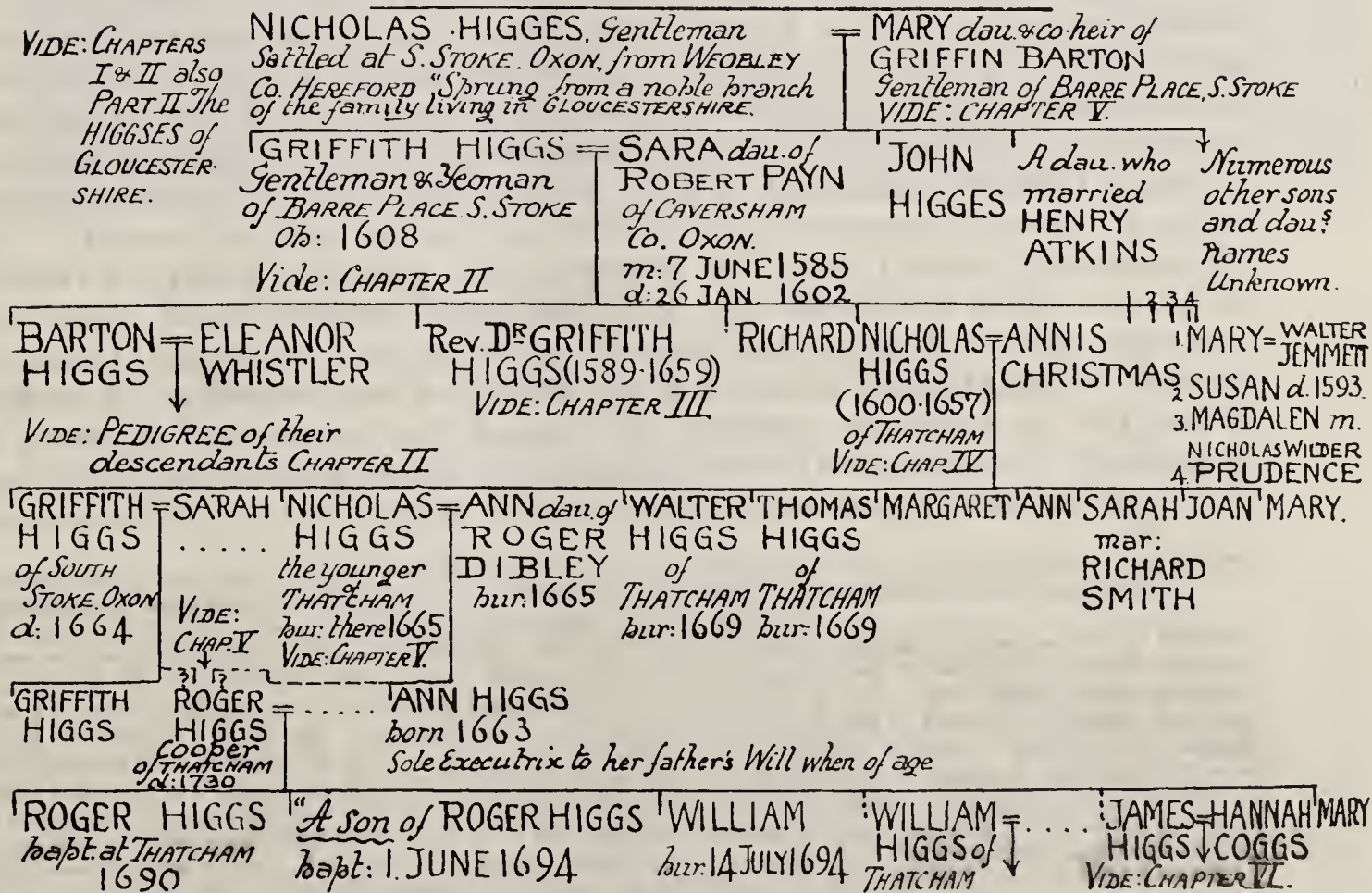
However, the marriage had scarcely taken place a month when a somewhat better time began to dawn, for on 17 November, 1558, Queen Mary died and her sister Elizabeth succeeded to the throne. Thus the religious persecution of the Protestants was stayed, and—though the country still continued to pass through trying and troublous times—a much improved condition of things in general prevailed under “The Good Queen Bess”.

GRIFFITH BARTON,\* Gentleman, of Barre Place, South Stoke, had no male issue, and upon his decease in 1579 he bequeathed “Barre Place” to his grandson and namesake GRIFFITH HIGGS, the eldest son of his daughter MARY by her husband NICHOLAS HIGGS, who had settled in South Stoke, with his uncle WALTER, from Weobley, Co. Hereford. (The other daughters and co-heirs of GRIFFITH BARTON are given upon the pedigree of the BARTON family.)

So the ancient monastic house at South Stoke—“Barre Place”—and now known as “The Manor Farmhouse”, passed from the family of BARTON to that of HIGGS.

\* Vide Will of GRIFFITH BARTON, 1579, P.C.C. “Arundel”, fo. 10.

## KEY PEDIGREE to CHAPTERS II-V







## CHAPTER II

## The Higgs Family

As we have seen in the opening chapter, at least two members of the HIGGS family had followed the family of BARTON out of Herefordshire into Oxfordshire and Berkshire some two generations later. There is evidence, however—from the parish registers of South Stoke—that members of this family were already settled in this place, and likewise in Basildon,\* and other Berkshire villages, at an earlier date. It is also evident that the family did not originate in the county of Hereford, as from the mural tablet erected to the memory of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS in St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke (written by himself), it will be noted that the branch of the family to which he belonged came from Gloucestershire, and, to quote his own words, “E familia non ignobilia Higgiana apud Glocestrenses oriundum” (Descended from a not ignoble family of HIGGES near Gloucester). We also find from Bishop Kennet's† records that the Rev. Dr. HIGGS came from “A wealthy and honest family living near Gloucester” (*vide* Part II, HIGGS of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester). The Arms as seen over the bust and tablet in St. Andrew's Church are identical with the arms recorded upon a Tudor Roll of Arms (temp. Henry VI, 1421–1471, ‘Harl. MSS.’, 2169, Brit. Mus.), namely, Argent, a chevron gules, between three bucks lodged of the second, and in use by one SYMOND HEGGYS‡—or SIMON HIGGS—(temp. Henry VI). According to the records in the College of Arms, London, this coat of arms was confirmed to THOMAS HIGGES of Colesbourne,§ in the county of Gloucester, in 1623, together with the crest, “A buck's head gules, attired Or, pierced through the neck with an arrow, shaft of the second, headed Or, feather Argent”. He was the eldest son of WILLIAM HIGGS of Colesbourne, by JUDITH, daughter of ANTHONY CALTHROP of London, and a grandson of THOMAS HIGGES, Foreman of the Jury of Tenant for Cheltenham, Gloucester, 1561. The HIGGES or HIGGS had resided in and around Cheltenham, Charlton Kings, Westhall and Sandford for many years, and their estate in Cheltenham came to them by the marriage of JOHN HIGGS|| of Westhall, in the parish of Cheltenham, with JULIANA DE SANDFORD, an heiress of that family. WALTER HIGGS¶ of Charlton Kings, a great grandson of THOMAS HIGGS of Cheltenham (Foreman of the Jury, 1561), was an officer in the Royalist Army during the Civil War.

\* Basildon lies across the river, just over the Berkshire Downs from South Stoke, and there was a large branch of the Higgs family settled in this place at an early date, no doubt closely related to the South Stoke family.

† ‘Lausdowne MS.’, 980, Bishop KENNET's Collections, vol. xvi, Brit. Mus.

‡ There was no rule for the spelling of a surname. We find the same family spelling their patronymic as HEGGYS, HEGGES, HIGGES, HYGES, HYGGS, HYGs, HIGs, HIGGS, etc., and occasionally from the likeness in sound the name has become misspelt as HICKS and its variants, though the two families were distinct. Dr. HENRY LOWER gives the meaning of the name as “Wild Ash”, originating in the days when the greater part of England was forest and bush. The Rev. Canon BARDSLEY gives HIGGS as a name derived from the Hebrew name of ISAAC. There was an ancient tribe called IGGS settled in the Cotswold Hills, Gloucestershire, who may have been the origin of this family, likewise another called the HWICCAS who possibly were the progenitors of the family of HICKS. Certain it is that the Higgs family seems to have largely followed the course of the old River Thames in the settlement of its many branches from the Cotswold Hills down to the great Metropolis, London, and spreading over the south and midland counties. Mr. L'ESTRANGE EWEN, in his recently published work upon British surnames, gives HYGGE as an old British personal name meaning “Courage”.

§ *Vide* ‘Harl. MS.S.’, 1041, fo. 75, and 1543, fo. 76.

|| *Vide* Sir THOMAS PHILLIPPS's pedigree in the British Museum.

¶ *Vide* Parish Register of Charlton Kings, Co. Gloucester, and his tomb in Charlton Kings Churchyard.





His second wife is said to have been ELIZABETH, a member of the PATE family, which took a prominent part upon behalf of King Charles I. (See footnote on p. 27 and Part II, Pedigree of HIGGS Family of Gloucestershire.)

GRIFFITH HIGGS, son of NICHOLAS HIGGS, who married MARY, the daughter and co-heir of GRIFFITH BARTON, gentleman, married SARA,\* the daughter of ROBERT PAYN (PAYNE or PAINE) of Caversham in the county of Oxford on 7 June, 1585, and taking up his residence at Barre Place (bequeathed to him under his maternal grandfather's



THE TOMB OF WALTER HIGGS (A COMMISSIONED OFFICER IN THE ARMY OF KING CHARLES I, AND WHO WAS PRESENT AT THE ENGAGEMENTS OF BATTLEDOWN AND NASEBY), CHARLTON KINGS CHURCHYARD, CO. GLOUCESTER.

"In memory of WALTER HIGGS of this Parish who served his Majesty King Charles the First. A Commissioned Officer in his Army; He left this Mortal Body. 12 day of December An. Dom. 1698. aged 85.

"Also in the same grave was buried ANNE his daughter on the 29th day of August 1684 Aged 4."

will,† and which up to this time had been in the occupation of his aunt "Mistress DANCASLE and her son JOHN"), farmed the acres attached thereto for twenty-three years until the day of his decease in 1608,‡ when his earthly remains were laid to rest with those of his wife, who had predeceased him six years, having been interred within the old parish church on 26 January, 1602.§ There were at least nine children born to GRIFFITH and SARA HIGGS, of whom the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS was their third child and second son.|| Their eldest child was born to them in 1586, just a year after their marriage. He

\* *Vide* Parish Register of South Stoke, Oxon, and mural tablet to the Rev. Dr. Higgs in St. Andrew's Church.

† *Vide* Will of GRIFFITH BARTON, Gentleman, 1579, P.C.C. "Arundell", fo. 10.

‡ Parish Register of South Stoke and Will of GRIFFITH HIGGS, 1608, P.C.C. "Windebank", fo. 11.

§ Parish Register of South Stoke, Oxon.

|| *Ibid.*, and mural tablet in St. Andrew's Church.





was baptized BARTON in St. Andrew's Church on 20 June, where he was also married on 22 September, 1607, at the age of twenty-one years, to ELEANOR, sister of WILLIAM WHISTLER, of Elvington, in the parish of Goring. (The WHISTLERS\* were a well-known and long-established family in the district and in Berkshire as early as the reign of Edward I.) Upon him and his young wife devolved a heavy responsibility, for they not only had to provide for their own young family of four sons and five daughters in the succeeding years, but young BARTON HIGGS had the care and guardianship of his brothers and sisters largely upon his shoulders, for but one year after his marriage he had followed his father's earthly remains into the same church wherein his mother had been laid to rest when he was a lad of sixteen, and now the family were orphans! His little brother NICHOLAS, the youngest, was but eight years of age. This care was no doubt shared by his sister MARY, who was then twenty-one years of age, having been born to GRIFFITH and SARA HIGGS in October, 1587, and who became the wife of WALTER JEMOTT, or JEMMETT,† of a wealthy family long established as considerable land-owners in Shiplake, Oxfordshire. No doubt also help was given by uncles and aunts, as their father GRIFFITH was one of a number of children of NICHOLAS HIGGS and MARY BARTON his wife.

GRIFFITH and SARA HIGGS's third child GRIFFITH (with whose life our third Chapter especially deals) was pursuing his studies at St. John's College, Oxford, at the time of his father's decease.

SARA, the next child, was then seventeen years of age, having been baptized at South Stoke on 14 November, 1591. SUSAN, their fifth child, had died in infancy, and they had buried her on 15 February, 1596, when barely three years old. MAGDALEN was next born to them, and was baptized at South Stoke on 30 June, 1594. She was fourteen years old when her father died. Later she became the wife of NICHOLAS WILDER of the parish of Goring, with little doubt a son or grandson of JOHN WILDER‡ of Nunhide in Sulham, in the county of Berks, by ALICE, or AGNES, daughter and heiress of THOMAS KEATS of Sulham House, whose daughter ELEANOR had married JOHN HIGGS of Sulhamstead Banister, Co. Berks. The seventh child of GRIFFITH and SARA HIGGS was baptized PRUDENCE on 15 February, 1596, at St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke. She was but twelve years old when she became an orphan, whilst her younger brother, RICHARD, who was baptized on 1 October, 1598, at South Stoke, was but ten. NICHOLAS,§ the youngest child born to GRIFFITH and SARA HIGGS, was baptized at St. Andrew's

\* JOHAN DE WISTLER held property in West Hanney 1272-1307, likewise RICHARD WHYSTELERE in West Hanney and West Lockinge, Co. Berks, in 1375. RALPH WHISTLER held the manor of Gatehampton, in the parish of Goring, Oxon, which adjoins Whitechurch, in the sixteenth century. He also purchased the manor of Fullestote (or Fowl's Court), Berkshire, from LORD NORREYS of Rycott in 1591 (now a part of South Moreton). The Manors of Gatehampton was inherited by EDWARD WHISTLER his son, who, dying intestate in 1577, was succeeded by his son JOHN, who was only fourteen years old at the time of his father's death. This JOHN WHISTLER purchased the Manors of Whitechurch on 18 June, 1605, for one thousand pounds from SIR GEORGE HOWME, Knt., LORD HOWME or HOLME of Barwick. JOHN WHISTLER had four sons, among whom he divided his property as follows (*vide* his will, P.C.C. "Skinner", fo. 4): "The Manors of Gatehampton to EDWARD and the avowson of Whitechurch; to WILLIAM (third son) and his heirs the mills and fishing of the River Thames, and also Great and Little Binditch and Hammersley; to THOMAS WHISTLER ---. To RALPH all the manors of Whitechurch except what is above bequeathed with the farm and park, and also the Thrupp containing the copyholds within the town and 100 of the best trees in Binditch and Hammersley towards the building in Whitechurch". Another WHISTLER, HUGH, possessed land in Little Milton and Hazely, Oxon, and HUGH's son HENRY, the second of four, a Fellow of Trinity College, Oxford, was Rector of Whitechurch for fifty-six years. It would seem, however, that the family chiefly resided in Goring (*vide* 'History of Whitechurch', chapter VI, by Rev. JOHN SLATTER, M.A., 1895, also 'The Close Rolls', Clause 3, James I, part XVII).

† JOHN GYMOTT of Byfield Hundred, Shiplake, mentioned in the 'Exchequer Lay Subsidies', 162/281, 1550; Augmentation Office, Particulars of Leases Queen Elizabeth, vol. i, fo. 35, County of Oxford, WALTER GEMOTTE. In 1660 GEORGE JEMMATT bought the Manors of Shiplake from THOMAS STONER of Stoner, and included in this was the greater part of the Holmwood Estate of the present day. The family of JEMMATT, JEMMETT, JEMMOT, etc. (originally GEMOTTE—the Norman spelling) were large landowners in Shiplake. SAMUEL JEMMATT was Mayor of Reading in 1661, a descendant of the Shiplake family. *vide* 'History of Shiplake', by EMILY J. CLIMENSON, 1894.

‡ JOHN WILDER of Nunhide was grandson of NICHOLAS WILDER, an officer at the Battle of Bosworth, 1485, who is said to have settled in England from Germany, and to have been granted an estate and armorial insignia in 1497 (Ein Wilder in German means "A wild man"). *vide* "Wilder Family of Purley Hall and Sulham, Co. Berks", 'Burke's Landed Gentry', 1906, fo. 1809.

§ Parish Register of South Stoke.





Church on 5 October, 1600. He eventually married ANNIS, or ANN, sister of WALTER CHRISTMAS of Shiplake and Henley in Oxfordshire, and, purchasing a small estate at Henwick by Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, which he farmed, became



THE INTERIOR, ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, SOUTH STOKE, OXON.

The last resting-place of many members of the HIGGS family, including GRIFFITH HIGGS and SARA PAYN, his wife, and the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, Chaplain to Charles I.

the ancestor of many HIGGSSES in that parish (see Chapter IV), and it is from him that the writer of this narrative claims descent.

Such was the family of GRIFFITH and SARA HIGGS of Barre Place, South Stoke, and it was in that old house that several succeeding generations of HIGGSSES lived. The reader will be able from this outline to better visualize the home, and family circle, in which the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS was born, and in which he spent his last days.





THE WILL OF GRIFFITH HIGGS, YEOMAN, OF SOUTH STOKE, IN THE  
COUNTY OF OXFORD. (SON OF NICHOLAS AND MARY HIGGS.)

(P.C.C. "Windebank", fo. 11, 1608.)

**In the name of God, Amen :** The fifteenth day of May, in the year of Our Lord God, One thousand, six hundred and five, and in the third year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King James.

I, GRIFFITH HIGGES of South Stoke, in the county of Oxon, Yeoman, being of good and perfect mind and memory (Thanks be given to God) and knowing and considering the nutability and instableness of this transitory world, and that death to all persons is a thing most certain, and the hour thereof most uncertain, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following :—

First : I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, my Maker and to Jesus Christ, my Redeemer by whose precious bloodshedding I hereby believe to be saved, and my body to be buried in the Church of South Stoke aforesaid.

**Item :** I give and bequeath unto the Mother Church—two pence, and to the Church of South Stoke—three shillings and four pence, besides that which is due for lying in the church.

**Item :** I give unto MARY HIGGES, my daughter, her Mother's best gown, a peticoat, which was her Grandmother PAYNE's ; a kirtle, which was her Grandmother PAYNE's ; a silk apron ; a silk girdle ; and a red bearing cloth.

**Item :** I give unto the said MARY a joined bedstead, which is at Dancastle's House ; my third and worst feather bed, a feather bolster according, a pillow with pillow beer ; a pair of canvas sheets ; a pair of blankets ; a coverlet, which I had with my wife ; my worst brass pot ; a second kettle ; a spice mortar ; and the sixth part of my pewter ; a coffer which was her Mother's, and a table cloth.

**Item :** I give unto the said MARY HIGGES, my daughter, twenty pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid unto the said MARY HIGGES my daughter, when she shall come to the full age of twenty and one years, or within five months after her marriage, which of them shall first happen after my decease.

**Item :** I give and bequeath unto MAGDALEN HIGGES, my daughter, my worst joined bedstead, standing in the lower chamber ; my second feather bed ; a flock bed ; the best coverlet of my wife's own making—yellow and green ; a pair of sheets of canvas, the second feather bolster ; the best pillow and one pillow beer, a pair of blankets.

**Item :** I give unto the same MAGDALEN HIGGES, my daughter, a gown, a peticoat, a worsted kirtle, a cambric apron, which was her Mother's bequest, a linen bearing cloth and my best table cloth.

**Item :** I give unto MARY HIGGES and MAGDALEN HIGGES, my daughters, all their Mother's other wearing linen, not only for their own wearing, but for the use of their children when they were young to be divided equally between them by my overseers.

**Item :** I give and bequeath unto MAGDALEN HIGGS, my daughter, my wife's second coffer, my best brass pot, my best kettle, my pewter quart pot, and the sixth part of my pewter. And my will is that MAGDALEN, my daughter, shall have that pewter, and all other things else, which have been given unto her by her Godfather and Godmothers.

**Item :** I give unto MAGDALEN HIGGS, my daughter, the sum of three score pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid unto the said MAGDALEN when she shall come to the full age of twenty and one years, or within six months after her marriage, which of them shall happen first.

**Item :** I give unto NICHOLAS HIGGES, my son, the sum of Four score pounds of good and lawful money of England to be paid unto him at his full age of twenty and one years.

**Item :** I give unto RICHARD HIGGES, my son, the sum of Three score & five pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence of good and lawful money of England to be paid unto him at his full age of twenty and one years.

**Item :** I give unto GRIFFITH HIGGES, my son, one plain bedstead, one flock bed and bolster, a red coverlet, two pairs of sheets, two blankets, and a table which standeth at Dancastle's, and a coffer at home in mine own chamber that hath no key to the lock.





**Item :** My will is that BARTON HIGGES, my Eldest son, shall have the use and occupation of Dancastle's and Brill's hold, until my said son GRIFFITH HIGGS shall accomplish and be of the full age of two and twenty years, the said BARTON his executors or administrators paying unto the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, my son, yearly the sum of fifteen pounds of good and lawful money of England, dividing it into even portions to be paid quarterly, and to begin to be paid at the next quarter ensuing four months after my decease.

**Item :** My Will is that when my son GRIFFITH HIGGS shall come to the age of two and twenty years, and then be willing or at any time after shall be willing, to have my aforesaid son RICHARD HIGGES and MAGDALEN HIGGS, my daughter, to surrender their states of Dancastle's and Brill's holds aforesaid to the further use and behalf of the said GRIFFITH HIGGS upon his agreement with the Lord that the said RICHARD and MAGDALEN shall surrender their, and either of their, estates as is aforesaid, or else the said RICHARD HIGGS shall have thirty pounds less, and the said MAGDALEN twenty pounds less. Then I have above in this my Will bequeathed unto them, which said last two sums of thirty pounds, and twenty pounds, shall be deducted out of their legacies by mine executors, his executors, or administrators to NICHOLAS HIGGS, my son, above said at his age above said, but if the said RICHARD HIGGS, my son, and MAGDALEN HIGGS, my daughter, shall be willing and do surrender as is above said, then my Will is that the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, my son, his executors or administrators, shall either presently pay, or give security to pay, unto the said RICHARD HIGGS, his executors or administrators, and to MAGDALEN HIGGS, my daughter, or to her executors or administrators, to each of them the sum of Twenty pounds of good and lawful money of England, and further my Will is that if my said Daughter MAGDALEN shall be towards any marriage, or be married before the said GRIFFITH HIGGES, my son, demands surrender as is aforesaid, that her husband—before the receipt of her legacy of Three score pounds—shall enter into bond of three score pounds for performance for so much of this my last Will and Testament as is to be performed by her, according to my desire, in this my last Will & Testament.

And further, my Will is that BARTON HIGGS, my eldest son, shall have all my copyholds in South Stoke, and shall receive the rent, which is to be paid unto me, mine heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, by ROGER DAVYS, *alias* SMITH, my tenant at Weobly, in the county of Hereford, by a lease let to him by me of my lands there, for the term of years which be yet to come, as by the said lease more at large appeareth, which Rent is two and twenty pounds by the year, and all my goods ungiven and unbequeathed. In consideration, and upon condition that the said BARTON HIGGS, my son, do pay out of the said rents the sum of Forty shillings rent charge to my Aunt MISTRESS ANNE DANCASTLE and her heirs.

And in consideration and upon condition that the said BARTON HIGGS, my son, shall find sufficient meat, drink, and apparel, and all things else necessary to their clean keeping and lodging, good bringing up, and learning, and other instructions and teaching meet for them, according to their states, to RICHARD HIGGS, my son, NICHOLAS HIGGS, my son, and MAGDALEN HIGGS, my daughter, until they come to the full age of twenty and one years, or be provided by him of good and meet services, or places, by the discretion and good liking of mine overseers; and unto GRIFFITH HIGGS, my son, until the time that he doth receive the fifteen pounds by the year, as is aforesaid, and in consideration and upon the condition that he, the said BARTON HIGGS, shall pay and discharge all my debts and the legacies given by me to my other children, and in consideration, and upon the condition, that the said BARTON HIGGS, my son, will be ruled by the discretion, good guidance and council of this my last Will, in this my Will named, both concerning the bringing up of my children as is aforesaid, by order of their discretion for payment of my debts, and in his course of husbandry, and husbanding of his things and business in good thrift, or else, and so it is my Will, that it shall be, and may be lawful, and I give authority unto JOHN HIGGES, my brother, HENRY ATKINS and MATTHEW PAYNE, my brothers-in-law, which three I do make and ordain to be overseers of this my last Will and Testament, upon just dislike of my son BARTON's dealings in the premises at any time to take into their hands all this my Copyholds (if my son shall be under age, or otherwise if of full age) but, those holds of mine called Dancastle's and Brill's, and the rents and goods so willed unto the said BARTON HIGGS, for the accomplishing of my Will to my other children, for payment of my debts and rent charge, until the said





BARTON, my son, shall in sufficient security for the performance of all those things which I have willed to be performed by him.

**Item :** My Will is that those goods, or household stuff, apparel and wearing linen, which I have given to GRIFFITH HIGGS, my son, MARY HIGGS and MAGDALEN HIGGS, my daughters, shall be praised and put in an inventory, and that my son BARTON shall deliver unto them the same, or else his executors, or administrators, at the time appointed for the delivery of them, or else the price as they shall be valued at their choice which should have them.

**Item :** I do give to the Poor of this Parish—Thirty shillings to be paid and distributed in the year of years of executorship according to the accustom of the appointment, and by the discretion of mine overseers above named, to every of which overseers I give Twenty shillings apiece for their pains.

**Item :** I give to every one of my servants one Bushel of Barley ; all the rest of my goods ungiven and unbequeathed, my debts being paid and funeral discharged, I give and bequeath to BARTON HIGGS, my son, whom I make and ordain my full and sole executor, he doing and performing, according to my Will as is aforesaid, or else the said my overseers to take the execution of my Will upon them, as is aforesaid and prescribed, and—

**Further** my Will is—That all things, in this my last Will and Testament comprised, shall be taken and construed according to good meaning, though the words be not set down according to good form of law.

**In Witness whereof** I the said GRIFFITH HIGGES have hereunto set my hand and seal. In the presence of the witnesses whose names are under-written by me

*Griffith Higgs,*

**Witness hereof are** HILLARY FISHWICKE, Vicar then.

By me ANTHONY HARVEY.

JOHN HIGGES—whose Mark this is ×.

and WILLIAM HIGGS, whose Mark this is #.







THE BUST, WITH ARMORIAL BEARINGS ABOVE, OF THE REV. DR. GRIFFITH HIGGS (CHAPLAIN FOR MANY YEARS AT THE HAGUE TO H.M. QUEEN ELIZABETH OF BOHEMIA, AND LATER CHAPLAIN-IN-ORDINARY TO HER BROTHER, KING CHARLES I). FROM THE MEMORIAL TABLET IN ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, SOUTH STOKE, OXON.





## CHAPTER III

THE Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, the third child and second son of GRIFFITH HIGGS, by SARA PAYNE his wife, was born at South Stoke and baptized in the parish church of St. Andrew on 28 October, 1589,\* and according to the Anglican Calendar, "On the day of St. Simon and St. Jude". The old monastic dwelling which had belonged to his



THE ANCIENT MONASTIC HOUSE, BARRE PLACE, NOW THE MANOR FARMHOUSE, SOUTH STOKE.

great-great-great-uncle WALTER BARTON thus became the birthplace of this member of the HIGGS family, who became a prominent member of the State Church, and the intimate friend of the Royal Houses of England and Bohemia. The old village (though probably not the old residence) also was destined to become the scene of his last days. Barre Place, or the Manor Farmhouse, is not a large home, taking it altogether, but substantial and comfortable, rambling and picturesque. There is the large dining-hall

\* *Vide* South Stoke Parish Registers, Part II.







THE OAK-BEAMED DINING-HALL, BARRE PLACE, SOUTH STOKE (NOW THE MANOR FARMHOUSE).



THE OAK-PANELLED ROOM, BARRE PLACE, SOUTH STOKE (NOW THE MANOR FARMHOUSE).

(By the courtesy of the present tenants Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM BULLOCK.)







(the low ceiling of which is broken up by heavy oak beams which carry the floor above), with its great square fireplace, a room which until recently was paved with large red tiles, and must have been the scene of many a family gathering in the days gone by. Long before those times, one can well visualize the monks as they sat around the long refectory table. Then there is the square oak-panelled room at the east end of the



QUEEN ELIZABETH OF BOHEMIA, SISTER OF KING CHARLES I OF ENGLAND.

To whom the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS was Chaplain for ten years at The Hague, and who presented him with a costly Bible embossed with the Royal Arms of Bohemia and England, besides many other Royal gifts. (From a rare print after the original by Michael Mireveldt.)



LORD HARRINGTON OF COMBE ABBEY, CO. WARWICK.

An earnest Protestant Churchman to whose care and guardianship the early life and training of the PRINCESS ELIZABETH was entrusted by her father KING JAMES I.

house, which might have been used as the library, with its windows looking south on to the private entrance to the parish church and churchyard, separated from the old garden of Barre Place by a low, creeper-covered stone wall. The windows from the rooms above (in one of which the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS no doubt first saw the light of day), looking west across the winding river, command a beautiful view towards Moulsoford and the Berkshire hills. Such was the place where the parents of GRIFFITH HIGGS lived together for seventeen years, and where he, and his brothers and sisters, were born. When a





boy he was sent to the Reading Grammar School,\* and though small of stature,† he soon showed a brilliance of mind. He was but thirteen years of age when he lost his beloved mother, and Barre Place must have had a great emptiness for him when home for his vacations. In 1606, at the age of seventeen,‡ his father sent him to St. John's College, Oxford, where he rapidly made great proficiency in logic and philosophy, so much so that it is recorded of him "He was worthily esteemed the flower of the undergraduates of that House, whether for Oratory or Disputations".§ Another irreparable loss came to him after his first two years at the University in the death of his father, but old GRIFFITH HIGGS must have passed away feeling intensely proud of the progress of his son at St. John's. His father's decease did not interfere with his University education, and after taking his B.A. degree he wrote in Latin verse in the year 1610,|| "Navitas vita et mors D. THOMAE WHITE militis et aldermani civitatis London et Founderis Coll. S. Johannis Bapt. Oxon.", or "The Life and Death of Dr. THOMAS WHITE, soldier and alderman of London and Founder of St. John the Baptist College, Oxford". This manuscript is in the custody of the President of that House and there are also a number of other writings of his in prose and verse still preserved, among which is "The Christmas Prince of St. John", written in 1607. In 1611 he was elected probationer Fellow of Merton College,¶ and taking his M.A. degree had Holy Orders conferred upon him, and two small cures successively in the Gift of that College. At the age of thirty-three, in the year 1622,\*\* notwithstanding his small stature, it is related "He did undergo with great courage, the Procuratorial Office in the University", and as Proctor he would have had to exercise disciplinary powers over the undergraduates, and therefore an office in the University requiring great tact and discretion, with firmness and a keen sense of justice, which as a comparatively young man the Rev. GRIFFITH HIGGS was called upon to fill. JAMES I was still upon the English throne. His eldest daughter, the PRINCESS ELIZABETH, who was born at Falkland Palace in Fife, Scotland, in 1596, had received her education under the superintendence of LORD and LADY HARRINGTON at Combe Abbey in Warwickshire. In Miss BENDER'S 'Memoirs of ELIZABETH STUART, QUEEN OF BOHEMIA, daughter of JAMES I', published in 1825, fo. 69, we find the following reference in connection with the residence of ELIZABETH STUART with the HARRINGTONS, and the early influences under which this Princess, who was later to occupy the throne of Bohemia as the consort of the ELECTOR PALATINE FREDERIC V (who accepted the crown of Bohemia in 1618), came, and whose Chaplain Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS became in 1627 :

"The habits of Combe Abbey appear to have been as regular as those of a religious community. LORD HARRINGTON, a Protestant strictly attached to the church and state, was, politically speaking, an unexceptionable guardian for the British Princess, his two children, a son and daughter, were both eminently distinguished—the former JOHN HARRINGTON, well known as the correspondent and bosom friend of PRINCE HENRY, was of unblemished morals, but in his religious sentiments had imbibed an almost ascetic austerity ; his sister LUCIA, whom BEN JONSON flatters for her beauty, and DANIELL commends for learning, is celebrated by DONNE and all the poets of the day as a muse and a grace, and was unquestionably a woman of rare attainments. At the commencement of ELIZABETH'S residence in Combe Abbey, young HARRINGTON, then in his sixteenth year, was finishing his studies previous to travelling on the continent, to explore the remains of Roman antiquity, being then regarded as essentially necessary to a gentleman's education. His intimacy with PRINCE HENRY was founded on mutual esteem and perfect harmony in their moral and religious principles. In the tastes and aptitudes of those distinguished youths, there appeared to have been little sympathy ; imbued with the love of letters and the arts, HARRINGTON already discovered literary abilities,

\* *Vide* mural tablet, St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke, Oxon.

† *Loc. cit.*    ‡ *Loc. cit.*    § *Loc. cit.*    || *Loc. cit.*    ¶ *Loc. cit.*    \*\* *Loc. cit.*







of which HENRY gave no similar indications ; nor did his quiet sedentary habits and meditative dispositions accord with the martial spirit that had animated the prince from early childhood.\* In their fates alone is to be traced a marked, though melancholy, resemblance ; both blasted in the spring of life—long before either had verified the predictions of their tutors, or repaid the bounty of nature. LUCIA HARRINGTON was,



THE EMBOSSED LEATHER COVER AND TITLE-PAGE OF THE BIBLE PRESENTED TO THE REV. DR. GRIFFITH HIGGS BY HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH OF BOHEMIA, NOW PRESERVED IN THE LIBRARY OF MERTON COLLEGE, OXFORD.

like her mother, fitted to adorn a court, and, like her brother, formed to enjoy retirement : she was not only learned, but in a high degree cultivated and ingenious, and so pre-eminently gifted with the attributes of taste, that in gardening, in architecture, and poetry, her discriminating judgment was generally admitted. When ELIZABETH arrived at Combe Abbey, LUCIA, who had scarcely attained womanhood, was its inmate, and the elegance of her mind and manners must have been advantageous to the young princess,

\* According to the interesting account of JOHN HARRINGTON in the 'Nugæ Antiquæ', he allowed but five hours to sleep, and employed his waking hours in useful exercises, in study, and devotion. In character he resembled King Edward VI rather than Prince Henry.





who, like her, acquired a relish for gardening and architecture; and, had her days flowed on in prosperity, would probably have fallen under the reproach incurred by LUCIA for her immeasurable indulgence of taste and munificence. During her residence at Combe Abbey the favourite companion of ELIZABETH was ANNE DUDLEY,\* LORD HARRINGTON'S niece, with whom she formed a friendship never to be relinquished. Under this roof she was surrounded by every object that could afford healthful and varied gratification to childhood. 'With God's assistance', writes LORD HARRINGTON, 'we hope to do our LADY ELIZABETH such service as is due to her princely endowments and natural abilities, both which appear the sweet dawning of future comfort to her royal father'."

ELIZABETH became a very staunch Protestant and a woman of exceptional character. She married the PRINCE ELECTOR PALATINE in 1613 and with him went to live at Prague, the capital of Bohemia, upon her husband accepting the kingdom. From that time on her life was clouded with misfortune. Driven from the Palatinate, she remained a fugitive for many years. Prague had been besieged and had fallen into the hands of the enemy, and FREDERIC and his Queen had a narrow escape for their lives. They reached Breslau by unfrequented roads, at all times impracticable to a carriage, and which at the time had been rendered more difficult by a heavy fall of snow, "such as three days earlier might have saved their kingdom".† During this perilous journey ELIZABETH suffered positive hardships, accompanied by circumstances peculiarly calculated to appal a woman's imagination. She rode on horseback behind a young British volunteer named HOPTON, of good family, and, after much difficulty, FREDERIC secured the Castle of Custrin, which was in a bare and unlivable condition, but the only temporary shelter they could secure, and it was there that she was delivered of a son, whom they named MAURICE. Finally they reached the Hague in Holland, and it was here that ELIZABETH took up her residence for a number of years, whilst her husband FREDERIC was away fighting as the leader for the Calvinist Party in Germany. The greatest of all her troubles was the death of her beloved husband in 1632, for they were devoted to each other and to their family, and it was perhaps at this time that the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS was able to speak some special words of comfort, for in 1625 CHARLES I had succeeded his father upon the throne of England, and two years later it was he who sent Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS to the Hague as Chaplain to his sister, HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF BOHEMIA, in which capacity Dr. HIGGS served for ten years. There is little doubt that the Doctor, like LORD HARRINGTON, held strongly Protestant views, but was strictly attached to the church and the state, or he never would have been selected for such distinctive service at the Hague,‡ CHARLES knowing full well the character and religious opinions of his sister.

It was during this time, between the years 1629 and 1630, that GRIFFITH HIGGS studied for his degree as Doctor of Divinity at Leyden, and during this time he published 'Problemata Theologica: Lugd. Bat. 1630'. On 12 February, 1630, he was created Doctor of that faculty by the famous ANDREW RIVET, and in his examination these theological problems were defended by him. During the years in which he was in the service of QUEEN ELIZABETH OF BOHEMIA he greatly endeared himself to the Queen and to her children, and upon his being recalled to England, about the year 1637, by KING CHARLES, HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH presented him with a beautiful English Bible (the cover of which was embossed with the Royal Arms), with a marker of blue silk strings fringed with gold. This Bible is still preserved in the Library of Merton College, Oxford. The Queen also presented him with several portraits in oil of the

\* ANNE DUDLEY was the second daughter of EDWARD SUTTON LORD DUDLEY and THEODOSIA HARRINGTON; her brother FERDINANDO DUDLEY was made Knight of the Bath at the creation of Henry, Prince of Wales, 1600.

† 'Memoirs of ELIZABETH STUART, QUEEN OF BOHEMIA' (Miss Benger).

‡ *Vide* mural tablet, St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke, Oxon.





Bohemian Royal Family and members of the Palatinate, and a "Gold ring with a faire diamond in it in form of a heart". This ring Dr. HIGGS left to his sister MARY, the wife of WALTER JEMMETT of Shiplake, Oxon. Among the pictures he received, the following are bequeathed in his will to the children of his eldest brother BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke\* :



- To GRIFFITH, his namesake, the portraits of the KING AND QUEEN OF BOHEMIA.
- To BARTON, the second son, a portrait of the PRINCE ELECTOR PALATINE.
- To ELEANOR, a portrait of the old PRINCE OF ORANGE and his PRINCESS.
- To MARY, a portrait of the PRINCESS ELIZABETH OF BOHEMIA.
- To SARAH, a portrait of the PRINCE OF ORANGE.
- To ELIZABETH, a portrait of the KING AND QUEEN OF BOHEMIA's eldest son, PRINCE HENRY FREDERICK, who was drowned.
- To MAGDALEN, a portrait of the PRINCESS LOISA, second daughter of the KING AND QUEEN OF BOHEMIA.

PRINCE PHILLIP, the youngest son of the King and Queen of Bohemia, presented him with a "small silver drinking tunne—or tankard". This he left to JOHN HIGGS of South Stoke, his nephew, the youngest son of his brother BARTON HIGGS. It would be interesting to trace the ownership of these royal gifts in the present day. The silver

\* Will of Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, 1659, P.C.C. "Nabbs", fo. 8.





tankard JOHN HIGGS of South Stoke left to his son JOHN.\* (See pedigree traced down to the eighteenth century of the descendants of BARTON and ELEANOR HIGGS.)

MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT. (Illustration of the Original Document, p. 23.)

BETWEEN—WILLIAM HARDING of Turnor Court, in Bessington (now Benson), in the County of Oxford, yeoman, and THOMAS his son of the one Part and JOHN HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon, yeoman of the other Part dated 6 October 1696.

This JOHN HIGGS was son of JOHN HIGGS and SUSANNAH BRISTOW his wife, as shown on the pedigree of the descendants of BARTON and ELEANOR HIGGS of South Stoke, as being aged twenty-two in 1695. He inherited the silver tankard from his father. This illustration is interesting as being from a photograph of the actual Deed in the possession of Mr. H. R. Moulton, of 5, Park Hill, Richmond, Co. Surrey, and a good example of a Settlement upon Marriage at this period.

By this settlement on the said JOHN HIGGS and MARY, daughter of the said WILLIAM HARDING, WILLIAM HARDING agrees to pay £300, of which £100 is left continued in the hands of the said WILLIAM, and which £100 is to be laid out in the purchase of lands in Fee Simple in the same manner as lands in South Stoke, etc., are already settled by indenture tripartite of release dated 2 October, 1696, made between JOHN HIGGS of the first part, WILLIAM, THOMAS and MARY HARDING of the second part, RICHARD POCOCK of Mongewell, Co. Oxon, Yeoman, and RICHARD EAST of Crommarsh Gifford, Co. Oxon, husbandman of the third part, with the proviso that to the satisfaction of the said WILLIAM HARDING, JOHN HIGGS can purchase a copyhold in the Manor of South Stoke for £100, to be then paid him by the said WILLIAM.

Witnesses: HONOR CROUCHE, LUCY CROUCHE, and DAVID BIGG.

Signatures: WILLIAM HARDING and THOMAS HARDING.

*Note.*—Of this marriage there were two children only, MARY HIGGS and REBECCA HIGGS. *Vide* Chancery Suit, *Higgs v. Higgs* (1318/72). Part II. JOHN HIGGS married twice.

In 1633 WILLIAM LAUD, who was then Bishop of Bath and Wells, which bishopric he had held since 1626 and was one of KING CHARLES's advisers during the stormy period between the years 1625 and 1629, was made Archbishop of Canterbury. He had, no doubt, come into close contact with the Rev. GRIFFITH HIGGS during his University career at St. John's College, Oxford, where he had taken Holy Orders in 1600, becoming President of St. John's in 1611.

GRIFFITH HIGGS, who had entered St. John's in 1606, and had made a marked name for himself as "The flower of the undergraduates of that House", and had held important offices in the University up till the time of his going to the Hague in 1627, had, unquestionably, come under the notice of the President of St. John's ere LAUD had left to become a prebendary in Lincoln Cathedral in 1614.† WILLIAM LAUD was sixteen years senior to GRIFFITH HIGGS, having been born at Reading in 1573. The reformation of the church was the object of his heart, and supported by KING CHARLES, he compelled all the bishops to retire to their sees; he also carried out many valuable reforms in the University of Oxford. Upon Dr. HIGGS's recall from service with the QUEEN OF BOHEMIA and her family at the Hague, through the influence of ARCHBISHOP LAUD he was made rector of

\* *Vide* Will of JOHN HIGGS, 1683, 'Arch. Oxon.', Ser. II, vol. ii, fo. 297. JOHN HIGGS the elder married SUSANNA, daughter of JOHN BRISTOW. They had the following children: GRIFFITH, mentioned in Chancery Suit, 23 May, 1692, JOHN, BARTON (*ob. infans*), and ALICE, baptized at South Stoke 12 July, 1680.

† ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM LAUD was the son of WILLIAM LAUD, clothier of Reading, Co. Berks, a native of Wokingham. WILLIAM LAUD, the father, lived in a house on the north side of Broad Street, in Reading, the site of which is now called "Lawd Place". He filled all the offices in the town save the mayoralty. His wife, LUCY, was the daughter of JOHN WEBB, of Wokingham, and sister of SIR WILLIAM WEBB, Lord Mayor of London in 1591. She first married JOHN ROBINSON, clothier of Reading, by whom she had a son WILLIAM, afterwards a Doctor in Divinity, and five daughters, one of whom was the mother of Dr. COTSFORD, and another of Dr. LAYFIELD, both eminent clergymen. The Archbishop was the only issue of his mother by her second marriage. He was born at Reading 7 October, 1573.





# PEDIGREE of the REV. DR. GRIFFITH HIGGS to whose family the REV.<sup>d</sup> of his Royal Gifts. (It would be interesting to trace 10<sup>th</sup> Century.) He was 19<sup>th</sup> in descent from KING HENRY II.

\* He was Registrar of South to WILLIAM WHISTLER of ELVINGTON, in the and second Cousin to OXON, whose widow KATHERINE (Sole Executrix of her WOLLASCOT, the OXON, whose widow KATHERINE (Sole Executrix of her Manor of SOUTH Stoke married secondly JEREMIAH WHARTON much against the VIDE: TABULATION SHOWING the wishes and friends. BARTON HIGGS, husband of ELEANOR BARTON, CLARK, her in-law, did his utmost to try and prevent this DANCASTLE, FRITH, in this, he managed to prevail upon KATHERINE to MARTIN, of her late husband's estate upon feoffees for the benefit of WINCHCOMBE and dren. The WHISTLER FAMILY were prominent land WOLLASCOT. of GORING and surrounding locality. There are some fine GORING Parish Church, and mural tablets, to the memory of stlers interred in that ancient edifice

An Inventory of his goods was married in S. Andrew's Ch. S. STOKE 22 SEPT. 1607. and Jo. BREACH She died 20 JULY and was buried 23<sup>rd</sup> JULY. 1669 at and valued then at £ South Stoke. and Exor., App. ex. 8 M

made by GRIFFITH HIGGLER, her brother, was one of the "Purveyors for Composition wheat to King of himself and THOMAS died about 1634; KATHERINE his wife was a sister of RICHARD MARTYN of S. STOKE.

GRIFFITH HIGGLIAM	ELEANOR	MARY	SARAH	ELIZABETH	MAGDA
of SOUTH STOKE. OXON. AGS	bapt. at S. STOKE 1 AUG. 1610.	or MARIA bapt. at S. STOKE 7 MAY 1615	bapt. S. STOKE 24 FEB 1621	bapt. S. STOKE 16 24	LEN. bapt. 3 JAN
died there 15 FEB 1683 at Monumental Inscr. on the porch of S. Andrew's Ch.	Will proved 11. FEB. 1683 (Con OXON. Ser. ii. Vol. ii f337)	She died in LONDON 25 Nov. 1612 (mentioned in her Sister's Will) She was bur. in "Ye little Chapel Yard of S. STOKE WESTMINSTER" (St. Margaret's)	mentioned in her Sister's Will) She was bur. in "Ye little Chapel Yard of S. STOKE WESTMINSTER" (St. Margaret's)	To whom Dr. Higgs left £30 & an m. . . . .	To whom Dr. Higgs left £30 & an m. . . . .
He was Exor. of his father and one of the three Executors. Uncle the REV. DR. GRIFFITH who left him his "Best lined throughout with an Oil Portrait of the of BOHEMIA which he took from the HAGUE, HOLLAND. he is mentioned in the WARNER v. HIGGS (Bridge According to Deposition 7 Oct. 1695 he lived and latter days with his Rep. who according to one Wm. Yeoman younger of S. Stoke Yeoman in 1695 worth above £10 per annosition HIGGS had complained tery. forced to drink water in his father 84 when he died & his siver Jankant	To whom the Rev. Doctor GRIFFITH HIGGS left an Oil Portrait of The Old PRINCE of ORANGE & his PRINCESS	Dr. HIGGS left her an Oil-Portrait of the PRINCE of ORANGE and £30.	Dr. HIGGS left her an Oil-Portrait of the PRINCE of ORANGE and £30.	Dr. HIGGS left her an Oil-Portrait of the PRINCE of ORANGE and £30.	Dr. HIGGS left her an Oil-Portrait of the PRINCE of ORANGE and £30.

HIGGS = MARY dau. of WILLIAM HARDING of TURNOR COURT parish of BENSINGTON. Co OXON. Marriage settlement dated 20 Oct. 1696 two daughters	BARTON ALICE HIGGS bapt S. STOKE 12 JULY 1680	BARTON-ELIZA BETH DAY of S. STOKE (Sole Exor. to . . . . . ELEANOR Higgs Will) with whom his aged Uncle GRIFFITH HIGGS lived.
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BARTON JOHN NIAS HIGGS = Co. BERKS. WINDGTON. Co. BERKS. born: at S. POWMARSH, OXON. he inherited his land called CROWMARSH Note:- A fine lacquered still to be seen worth WALLINGFORD. 1746 (PCC EDMUNDS - fol. 179)	MARTHA She died 8 AUG 1730 bur ABINGDON	JAMES HIGGS GENTLEMAN, of WALLINGFORD Co. BERKS. bapt. S. STOKE 22 JUNE 1679 MAYOR of WALLINGFORD died 24 JULY 1742. M.I. SOUTH STOKE PAR. CH.	1/ 12 13 4
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WILLIAM HIGGS. who kept her in 1711 ALLEN for her Uncle. in he died JAMES HIGGS 31 OCT. who left her church 1770	MARY = MOSES REBECCA SARAH ROBERT FRANCIS WEST KING	ANNE ELIZABETH SARAH Sole Executrix of her father's Will
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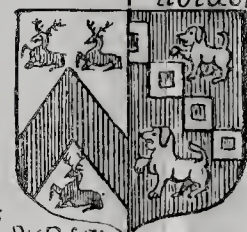
PEDIGREE of the descendants of BARTON HIGGS, eldest brother of the REV. DR. GRIFFITH HIGGS to whose family the REV.<sup>d</sup> Doctor bequeathed many of his Royal Gifts. (It would be interesting to trace these legacies in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.) He was 19<sup>th</sup> in descent from KING HENRY II

\* He was Registrar of SOUTH STOKE and second Cousin to ANNE WOLLASCOT, the Lady of the Manor of SOUTH STOKE, OXON.  
VIDE: TABULATION SHOWING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FAMILIES OF: HIGGS, BARTON, CLARKE, DANCASTLE, FRIER, MARTIN, WINCHCOMBE and WOLLASCOT.

He was the eldest son of GRIFFITH HIGGS Gentleman & Yeoman, of BARRE PLACE, SOUTH STOKE, OXON. by SARA, dau. of ROBERT PAYN of CAVERSHAM, his wife, and was bapt. at SOUTH STOKE 20 JUNE 1586.

He died, aged 83, 22 JULY 1669 at S. STOKE and was buried there the next day. Both he & his wife died within two days, and a double funeral took place.

An Inventory of his goods was made by BARTON HIGGS, JOHN HIGGS, and Jo. BREACH 20 APRIL 1669 (three months prior to his death and valued then at £10. GRIFFITH HIGGS Gentleman, his eldest son and Exor. App. ex. 8 MARCH 1670. On 7 Oct. 1669 administration was made by GRIFFITH HIGGS of a Bond in relation to BARTON HIGGS in the names of himself and THOMAS HIGGS of GORING, Gentleman: VIDE: Arch & Con. Ox. f. 51. Act Bk. B. f. 51.



\* BARTON HIGGS Gentleman, (so designated in Chancery Proceedings 6 Feb. 1654 HIGGS v. WHARTON (BRIDGES 383/78)

ELEANOR, sister to WILLIAM WHISTLER of ELVINGTON, in the Parish of GORING, OXON, whose widow KATHERINE (Sole Executrix of her husband's Will) married secondly JEREMIAH WHARTON much against the wishes of her relatives and friends. BARTON HIGGS, husband of ELEANOR KATHERINE's sister-in-law, did his utmost to try and prevent this marriage but, failing in this, he managed to prevail upon KATHERINE to settle a good part of her late husband's estate upon feoffees for the benefit of herself and her children. The WHISTLER FAMILY were prominent land holders in the parish of GORING and surrounding locality. There are some fine brasses in GORING Parish Church, and mural tablets, to the memory of various Whistlers interred in that ancient edifice

ELEANOR was married in S. Andrew's Ch. S. STOKE 22 SEPT. 1607. She died 20 JULY and was buried 23<sup>rd</sup> JULY. 1669 at SOUTH STOKE.

WILLIAM WHISTLER, her brother, was one of the "Purveyors for Composition wheat to King CHARLES I, he died about 1634. KATHERINE his wife was a sister of RICHARD MARTYN of S. STOKE.

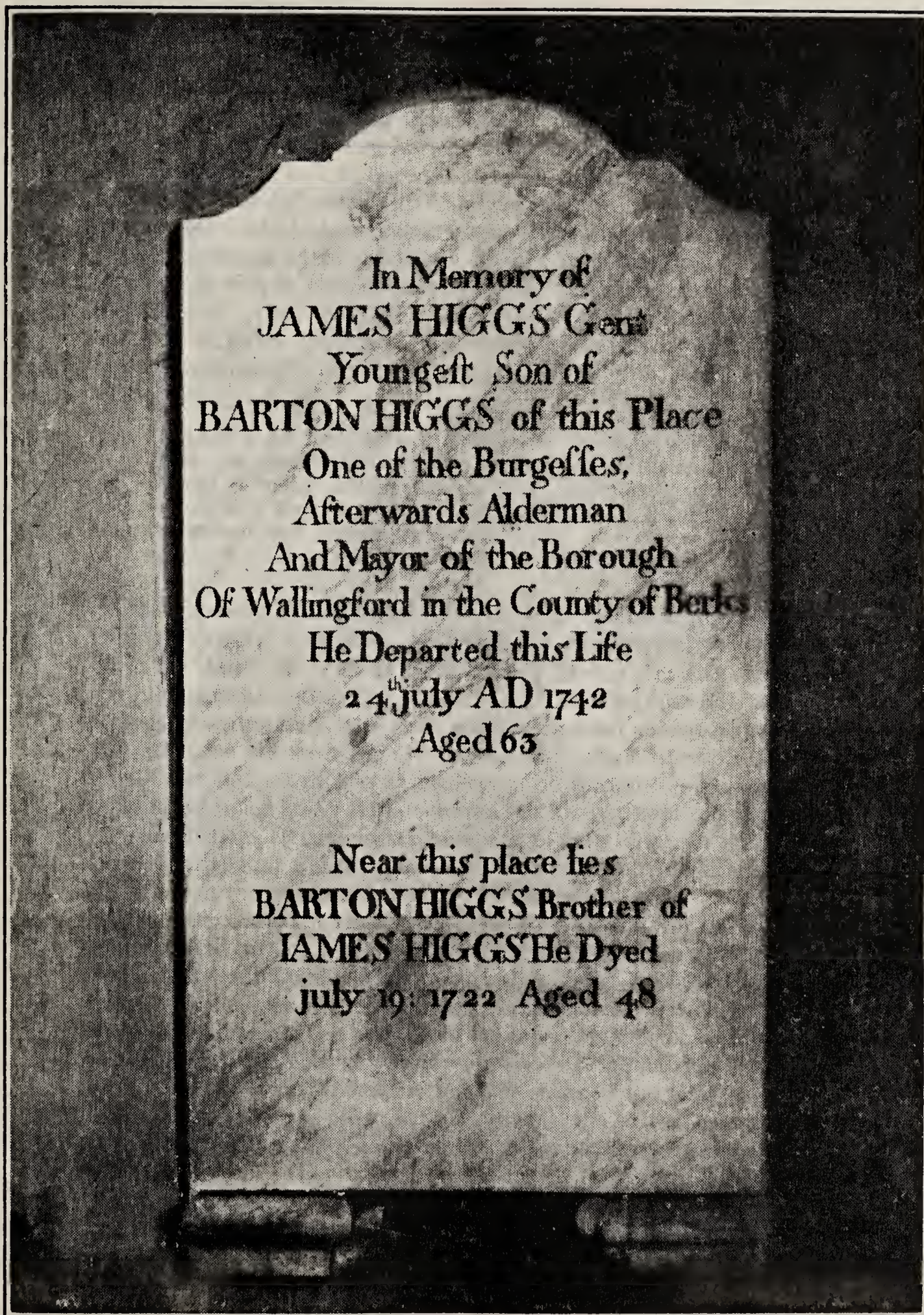
of SOUTH STOKE, OXON.	of SOUTH STOKE, Gent <sup>l</sup> & Yeoman, & of GORING OXON.	dau. of COMBE of MILTEN Co. BERKS	of S. STOKE, OXON.	dau. of JOHN BRISTOW, S. STOKE	HIGGS bapt. at: S. STOKE 1 AUG. 1610.	or MARIA bapt. at: S. STOKE 7 MAY 1615	bapt. at: S. STOKE 24 FEB. 1621	ELIZABETH MAGDALENE bapt. 3 JAN 1624
bapt. there 30 Oct. (h. 18 <sup>th</sup> ) 1608. died " 15 FEB. (h. 17 <sup>th</sup> ) 1692. Monumental Inscription over the porch of S. Andrew's Church	bapt. 1617 (no day or month given) died aged 73 bur: at S. Stoke, 27 SEPT. 1690	Mar: at ASTON in BERKSHIRE 22 MAY 1662 mentioned in Chancery Suit WARNER v. HIGGS (Bridges 299/71) Defendant in Chancery Suit MIDDLETON v. HIGGS 1690. (Collins 302)	To whom the REV. DOCTOR GRIFFITH HIGGS left "A small Silver drinking tunne (or tankard) presented to him by PRINCE PHILIP of BOHEMIA	To whom her husband left his Seal Ring 20 MARCH 1622	Will proved 25 Nov. 1612 LONDON & SERII. Vol. II f. 337	Shedied in her Sister's Oil Portrait of ELEANOR'S PRINCE HENRY FREDERICK	left £30 & an m. ... DAY	Twiddy the Rev. Dr. HIGGS left her £30 & a Portrait of the KING & QUEEN of BOHEMIA PRINCESS LOISA who was drowned SHE m. ... BANKES
He was Exor. of his father's Estate and one of the three Exors. of his Uncle the REV. DR. GRIFFITH HIGGS who left him his "Best cloth cloake lined throughout with Velvet" and an Oil Portrait of the KING & QUEEN of BOHEMIA which he brought from the HAGUE, HOLLAND. he is mentioned in Chancery Suit WARNER v. HIGGS (Bridges 1692. 299/71) According to Deposition in Chancery 7 Oct. 1695 he lived and boarded in his latter days with his nephew BARTON DAY who according to one WILLIAM HIGGS the younger of S. Stoke Yeoman "his board was not worth above £10 per annum and GRIFFITH HIGGS had complained that he had been forced to drink water instead of beer." He was 84 when he died & his funeral was paid for by BARTON DAY	Will pr. PCC. 1690 (Dyke fo. 154) The Rev. Doctor GRIFFITH HIGGS left him an Oil Portrait of the PRINCE ELECTOR PALATINE	He was bur. at S. STOKE 28 APRIL 1683. Will pr. Arch. Oxon (Serii Vol. II, fo. 297) 28 APR. 1683	He was bur. at S. STOKE 28 APRIL 1683. Will pr. Arch. Oxon (Serii Vol. II, fo. 297) 28 APR. 1683	mentioned in Chancery Suit 23 MAY 1692 To whom his father left the Silver Tankard	of S. Stoke, Yeoman aged 22 in 1695 VIDE: Deposition in Chancery. Settlement dated 20 Oct. 1696 two daughters	of TURNOR COURT parish of BENSINGTON, Co. OXON. Marriage Settlement dated 14 MAY 1682 Ob. Inf.	bapt. at: S. STOKE 12 JULY 1680	DAY of BETH (Sole Exor. to ELEANOR HIGGS Will) with whom his aged Uncle GRIFFITH HIGGS lived.

BARTON HIGGS	JOHN HIGGS of WALLINGFORD	SARAH HIGGS	GRIFFITH HIGGS	BARTON HIGGS	MARY HIGGS	THOMAS HIGGS	MARTHA HIGGS	JAMES HIGGS	1	2	3	4
Co. BERKS & CROWMARSH, OXON. born: at S. STOKE 24 <sup>th</sup> bapt. 26 <sup>th</sup> FEB. 1668. he inherited under his father's Will his land called SWAINCOMBE in GORING Note: A fine lacquered wall clock made by him is still to be seen working at the LAMB HOTEL in WALLINGFORD. Will pr. 1731 (Arch. Berks R22 f. 189)	born: at S. STOKE 24 <sup>th</sup> bapt. 26 <sup>th</sup> FEB. 1668. he inherited under his father's Will his land called SWAINCOMBE in GORING Note: A fine lacquered wall clock made by him is still to be seen working at the LAMB HOTEL in WALLINGFORD. Will pr. 1731 (Arch. Berks R22 f. 189)	born: at S. STOKE 24 <sup>th</sup> bapt. 26 <sup>th</sup> FEB. 1668. he inherited under his father's Will his land called SWAINCOMBE in GORING Note: A fine lacquered wall clock made by him is still to be seen working at the LAMB HOTEL in WALLINGFORD. Will pr. 1731 (Arch. Berks R22 f. 189)	bapt. 20 SEP. 1674 at S. STOKE. To whom his father demised land at 1672 DONNINGTON & HUNTINGDON, M.I. S. STOKE CHURCH. Will pr. 1723 13 MAY. (Arch. Ox. Serii Vol. II, f. 392) Suit WARNER v. HIGGS 1692	bapt. 20 SEP. 1674 at S. STOKE. To whom his father demised land at 1672 DONNINGTON & HUNTINGDON, M.I. S. STOKE CHURCH. Will pr. 1723 13 MAY. (Arch. Ox. Serii Vol. II, f. 392) Suit WARNER v. HIGGS 1692	born: 1683, he inherited his CROWMARSH husband's land from his father Will. died: 30 APR. 1746 Will pr. 1746 (PCC EDMUNDS fol. 179)	of ABINGDON, Co. BERKS & of CROWMARSH, OXON. She died 8 AUG. 1730 bur. ABINGDON - fol. 179)	GENTLEMAN, of WALLINGFORD Co. BERKS. bapt. S. STOKE 22 JUNE 1679 MAYOR of WALLINGFORD died 24 JULY 1742. M.I. SOUTH STOKE PAR. CH.	1. ELEANOR died young	2. MARY died young	3. ELEANOR 1670	4. MARY, bapt. 7 MAY 1682	
WILLIAM HIGGS. who kept house for her Uncle JAMES HIGGS of WALLINGFORD who left her £200	WILLIAM HIGGS. who kept house for her Uncle JAMES HIGGS of WALLINGFORD who left her £200	WILLIAM HIGGS. who kept house for her Uncle JAMES HIGGS of WALLINGFORD who left her £200	Received £100 from his Uncle JAMES H. & lands at S. STOKE & GORING & his brother's land.	Received £100 from his Uncle JAMES H. & lands at S. STOKE & GORING & his brother's land.	born 1711 ALLEN he died 31 OCT. 1770	REBECCA SARAH ROBERT FRANCIS WEST KING who rec <sup>d</sup> £100 from her Uncle JAMES H.	ANNE ELIZABETH SARAH JANE she inherited land at WASHINGTON					









TABLET IN CHANCEL OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, SOUTH STOKE.





the rich church of Clive, or Cliff,\* near Dover in Kent, and Chauntor of St. David's (the Bishopric of which Welsh see was held by WILLIAM LAUD from 1621-1626), upon the removal of Dr. FELL to the Deanery of Christ Church, Oxford. Cliffe Church is a large, handsome building, dedicated to St. Helen. In the chancel there are remains to-day of stained glass, and six stalls that were formerly appropriated to the monks of Christchurch, when they visited their estates in this parish. Here Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS laboured until 1638, when he was made Dean of Lichfield, living in the Dean's House within the Close, and at once set to work to adorn this ancient and beautiful edifice at his own personal charge. Little did he think, during those first four years of his office in Lichfield Cathedral, that that labour of love he had set out to perform would so soon fall to the hands of the despoilers, for in 1643,† "during the time that the forces of the Parliament were in possession of the Close, they used every species of havoc, plunder and profanation. They demolished the monuments, pulled down the curious carved work, battered in pieces the costly windows, and destroyed the most valuable evidences and records belonging to the church and city", and, says Dugdale:

"They kept courts of guard in the cross isles; broke up the pavement, every day hunted a cat with hounds throughout the church, delighting themselves in the echo from the goodly vaulted roof; and to add to their wickedness, brought a calf into it, wrapt in linen; carried it to the font; sprinkled it with water; and gave it a name in scorn and derision of that holy sacrament of baptism. And when PRINCE RUPERT recovered that church by force, RUSSEL, the governor, carried away the communion plate, and linen, with whatsoever else was of value."

The Deanery House,‡ within the Close at Lichfield, stood to the west of the splendid Bishops' Palace. Originally this house was a building of very humble dimensions—18 ft. by 12 ft.—but it was enlarged at various periods. It, with the fine palace close by, was completely destroyed during the Civil War, and the materials which had comprised these ecclesiastical dwellings were most probably applied at that time to strengthen the fortress, and after the Restoration, to the repairs of the Cathedral. The Deanery House was rebuilt by DEAN BINCHES in the time of QUEEN ANNE upon the site of the ancient building occupied by Dr. HIGGS during the time he held the office of Dean.

The Bishops' Palace was rebuilt by BISHOP WOOD in 1687, during the time of the suspension of that Bishop, and on the injunction of ARCHBISHOP SANCROFT, as a fine for the waste of the woods belonging to the See.

That Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS himself suffered greatly for the Royal Cause there is ample evidence and record. He was plundered and sequestered, and his Spiritualities were taken from him by the Parliament. Just what happened to him during the attacks made by the forces of the Parliament is uncertain. He either left the fortress with His Majesty as Chaplain and journeyed thence to Oxford, or he was among the clergy in the garrison when the final surrender was made in July, 1646.

It is of particular interest to note the visits of the King to Lichfield about this time. On Sunday, June 15, 1645, KING CHARLES arrived there from Ashby-de-la-Zouch, and stayed one night in the house of the Governor in the Close, leaving the next day for Wolverhampton. On Sunday, 10 August of that year, His Majesty returned and left on Tuesday, and on Thursday—2 October—the King arrived from Bridgenorth, and stayed in the Close that night. This was his last visit, and he left for Newark the next day. Early in 1646 the forces of the Parliament again attacked the city and harassed

\* Cliffe is by some supposed to be the place formerly written Clovesho (*i. e.* Cliff at Hoo), where several Ecclesiastical Councils were held. *Vide* 'The County of Kent', by C. Greenwood (London, 1838), fo. 219.

† *Vide* 'The History and Antiquities of the Church and City of Lichfield', by the Rev. Thomas Harwood, F.S.A., 1806, fo. 25.

‡ *Vide* 'The History of Lichfield' (fo. 290), by the Rev. Thomas Harwood, F.S.A., 1806.





it until the Right Hon. LORD ASTLEY, Governor of Lichfield, realizing the desperate situation and hopelessness of the Royalist Cause, with great reluctance decided to surrender the fortress to ADJUTANT-GENERAL LOUTHIAN, and upon honorable conditions being arranged the forces of the Parliament took possession on 10 July.

The names of those who concluded the articles and conditions under which this surrender was made, for both sides, are as follows :

#### FOR THE ROYALISTS.

Commissioners named by THOMAS TYLDESLEY, Knight, Deputy Governor to the Right Hon. LORD ASTLEY of the Garrison of the Close of Lichfield, and COL. HARVEY BAGOT his assistant.

WALTER, LORD ASTON.  
SIR JOSEPH PATE, Bt.\*  
SIR GERVAS LUCAS, Bt.  
SIR RICHARD DYOTT, Knt., and  
CAPT. THOMAS GLASIER.

#### FOR THE PARLIAMENT.

Commissioners named by ADJUTANT-GENERAL LOUTHIAN.

EDWARD MAINWARING, Esqre.,  
High Sheriff of the County of  
Stafford.  
LIEUT.-COL. GILBERT GERRARD.  
MAJOR OWEN CAMBRIDGE.  
CAPT. LIEUT. STONE, and  
CAPT. HENRY SLADE.

The terms and conditions upon which the surrender of Lichfield were made are of particular interest as concerning those who were with the garrison of the Close, and fortress, at the time, and therefore we give them as they are recorded in the history of the city† :

“(1) **It was agreed**, That because SIR THOMAS TYLDESLEY and COLONEL BAGOT were satisfied by the information of COLONEL HUDSON (who, having lately gone out of that garrison, was permitted by the said ADJUTANT-GENERAL LOUTHIAN to come in again) that the King hath no army in the field to the number of one hundred men, nor any one garrison unbesieged, the garrison of the Close of Lichfield, and all places of defence whatsoever about it, with all the ordinance, arms, ammunition, provision for war, with all magazine and stores thereunto belonging, and all manner of goods, whatsoever, within the said garrison, (except what is allowed in the ensuing articles), shall be delivered to the said ADJUTANT-GENERAL LOUTHIAN, or to whom he shall appoint to receive same, for the use of the Parliament, without any spoil or embezzlement, upon Thursday the 16th day of this instant July, before eleven of the clock in the morning.

“(2) That the said SIR THOMAS TYLDESLEY, and COLONEL BAGOT, with all other following officers and soldiers, both of horse and foot, shall march out armed and soldiers-like, in such sort as when they march towards an enemy, upon the said 16th of July, before the aforesaid hour of eleven, unto such place at the end of Bacon Street, as the said SIR THOMAS TYLDESLEY and ADJUTANT-GENERAL LOUTHIAN shall appoint, and there draw up into one body of foot, and one body of horse; and all and every of them, (except such as are allowed horse and armes by virtue of these ensuing articles) shall then and there lay down their armes, and from them depart according to their several passes.

“(3) That the said SIR THOMAS TYLDESLEY and COLONEL HARVEY BAGOT, with

\* SIR JOSEPH PATE, Bt., was no doubt of the old Gloucestershire family of PATE or PATES. In 1639 ELIZABETH PATE became the wife of WALTER HIGGS of Charlton Kings at that place. This WALTER HIGGS was a Captain in the Royalist Army, and in all probability in COL. BAGOT's regiment of horse, which regiment the King left at Lichfield for its defence. WALTER HIGGS is said to have been at the Battle of Naseby (June, 1645), and it was at that battle that COLONEL BAGOT was wounded in the right arm. CAPT. WALTER HIGGS was a kinsman of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, though the actual relationship has not been definitely established. By ELIZABETH his wife he had three daughters, FRANCES, ELIZABETH—who married THOS. GABB—and ANNE, born at Charlton Kings, Gloucester, in 1680, and buried there 29 August, 1684. The family tomb is in Charlton Kings Churchyard.

† ‘History of Lichfield.’





field officers, lords, baronets, lieutenants, captains, and gentlemen of quality, to the number of thirty eight more, shall march forth of the said Close of Lichfield, with forty horse and forty case of pistols, and their swords; and the residue of the officers, (reformed as well as others) with their swords only; and all of them with all their wearing apparell of what ever sort soever, together with their charters, evidences, and writings concerning their estates, dignities and professions. And the said SIR THOMAS TYLDESLEY, and COLONEL HARVEY BAGOT, shall each of them have liberty to carry out twenty pounds apiece; the baronets, lieutenants and captains, five pounds apiece; and all other gentlemen, *clergymen* and officers, not formally in this article comprised, *three pounds apiece*.

“(4) That all persons that were inhabitants of the Close before these warres, (**as well as members of the Cathedral Church as other,**) and all townsmen and citizens of Lichfield now in the Close, *shall have liberty to carry all their goods to their own houses*, and to the houses of their friends, the said goods being appraised by such as shall be appointed by the committee of Parliament for this county to take an inventory of them, and the owners giving public notice to the committee to be responsible for them, according to the ordinance of Parliament. And all such persons whose habitations were in the Close before these warres as aforesaid, shall have liberty to remaind there, with their families and goods aforesaid, it shall be in the power of the said committee to suffer so many of them so to do as they shall think fit.

“(5) That the above named persons, as well as such as are excepted from composition, (if any such be) as others shall have free passes to march to their places of abode, not interrupting the present occupants thereof, or else whither within the kingdom of England, (**except to the place of His Majesty's present abode,**) there . . . as also to pass to and fro upon their occasions quietly, and free from molestation, for the space of three months next after the day of the surrender of the said Close, engaging themselves by promise that in the interim they will not act any thing prejudicial to the Parliament or kingdom. And in case they do not perform their composition with the Parliament before the end of the said three months, then they to have safe passes, (if they desire it) unto any port, town, to be exported out of the kingdom, engaging themselves not to take up arms against the Parliament.

“(6) That all inferior officers and soldiers, and all other persons, of whatsort soever within the said garrison not comprised in the former articles (except all Irish rebels who were in arms against the protestants in Ireland, and are to become prisoners,) shall have free pass, without molestation, to march to their several places of dwelling, or to their friends, and there to have liberty of abode and protection from time to time; conforming themselves to all ordinances of Parliament. And that so many of the said officers as desire to go beyond the seas, shall have safe passes to what port they shall nominate for transportation, if they so resolve within one month after the surrender of the said Close.

“(7) That all ladies, gentlewomen, and other women whatsoever, within the said garrison, shall have free liberty to go to their several places of abode, or to their friends, or else whither, with all their wearing apparell whatsoever, and two suites of best linen apiece; and there to remain and be protected from violence or plunder of soldiers, doing nothing prejudicial to the Parliament.

“(8) That all persons comprehended in these articles, who are unable by reason of sickness or wounds to march at the time aforesaid forth of the said Close, shall be allowed to remain there till their recovery, and then to have the benefit of these articles, according to their respective qualities, and provision in the meantime to be made for such of them as are in want.

“(9) That all writings, evidences, charters belonging to the Cathedral, as also the library thereto, shall be preserved, and kept together in the Close until the Parliament shall otherwise order; and **it shall be lawful for every minister and other person in the Close (not formerly comprised in the capitulation) to carry along with them notes, writings and books; but their printed books are to be compounded for, being first viewed and apprised by such as the committee of this countye shall think fit.**

“(10) That if any souldier, or other person, within the said garrison, shall ignorantly, fraudulently, or otherwise, break anye of these articles, the offender . . . therefore, and others, not to be prejudiced by his offence, unless they were thereunto consenting, or shall refuse, (being requested) to doe . . . his apprehensions. That, upon signing





these articles, each partye shall deliver hostages to the other, for the performance of them.

“Signed by us, in behalfe of SIR THOMAS  
TYLDESLEY\* and COLONEL BAGOT† :

WALTER ASTON.  
JO. PATE.  
GERVAS LUCAS.  
RIC. DYOT.  
THOMAS GLASIER.

Signed by us in the behalfe of  
ADJUTANT-GENERAL LOUTHIAN :

EDWARD MAINWARING.  
HEN. STONE.  
G. GERRARD.  
HENRY SLADE.  
OWEN CAMBRIDGE.”

From the foregoing articles and conditions of the surrender of the Close and Fortress of Lichfield, if Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS did not accompany HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES from Lichfield on Thursday, 2 October, 1645, it will be seen from Article # 3 that he would have been permitted to leave Lichfield with but three pounds in cash, and from Article # 9 would have been permitted to take with him his notes, writings and books, but his printed books were to be compounded for, after being first “appraised by such as the committee of this County shall think fit”.

We do know for certain that he was at Oxford in September, 1647, and there only obtained pardon, for remaining in that city until it surrendered, by paying, on 21 September, a fine‡ of four hundred and eighty pounds—a large sum at that period. We also know from Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS’s will that a number of his books had been removed to the library at Stafford, and these he demised to the library at Merton College, Oxford, but as often as the custodians of that library sought to secure these books they were refused by the custodians of Stafford. We also know that an oil portrait of **Prince Rupert**, a royal gift to him from the QUEEN OF BOHEMIA, was with him when at Lichfield, and this he willed to his nephew JOHN, son of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke, “if he could procure it from SIR HERVY BAGOT’s son, who, being Governor of Lichfield, carried it away with him from that city upon its surrender”. Whether this painting was ever recovered by the legatee would be interesting to learn!

After leaving Oxford Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS retired to the place of his nativity, and in the old home at South Stoke, or possibly in the old cottage residence on the corner of the road to the ferry, he spent the remainder of his days in great retiredness, study and devotion. Tradition in the village is that he used to drive around the country with a pair of white mules which were kept tethered to a ring in the floor of the great brick pigeon cote—referred to in the first chapter of this book—which he used as a stable for them. The iron ring is still in the flagstone floor of this ancient building, or was a few years ago when, during the Great War, the writer visited the old house, Barre Place, and its outbuildings.

During these last twelve years of Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS’s life he became more and more attached to the home of his ancestors, and the old parish church adjoining, and upon his decease, with money he left for the purpose, his executors presented to St. Andrew’s Church a silver chalice and paten, each bearing the HIGGS family arms and inscribed :

“*The gift of GRIFFITH HIGGS, Doctor of Divinity to ye parish church of South Stoke in ye County of Oxon. Anno Dom. 1660.*”

This chalice and paten are still used for the sacraments in the church.

\* SIR THOMAS TYLDESLEY was afterwards killed at Wigan in 1651.

† The portrait of COLONEL RICHARD BAGOT, son of the Governor of Lichfield, is at Blithfield, the seat of LORD BAGOT. He fell in the Battle of Naseby, and his monument is in Lichfield Cathedral. ELIZABETH HIGGES, wife of WALTER HIGGS’s great-uncle THOMAS HIGGES, Gentleman, of Cheltenham (Lessee of the Cheltenham Rectory), who died in 1589 (will proved P.C.C. 1589, Leicester, fo. 38), married secondly one of the BAGOT family according to SIR THOMAS PHILLIP’s pedigree of the HIGGS of Cheltenham and Charlton Kings, Co. Gloucester. It may be, therefore, that COLONEL BAGOT was closely related to CAPT. WALTER HIGGS and to the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS by this marriage.

‡ *Vide ‘Commons Journal’, vol. v, fo. 30.*





Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, in his will, thought of the poor of the village, and bequeathed the sum of one hundred pounds to buy lands for them. He also thought of the rising generation, as he bequeathed six hundred pounds to purchase "free land of soccage" to the value of thirty pounds per annum for the maintenance of a schoolmaster in South Stoke. Upon looking into this legacy it has been discovered that one of the executors—namely GRIFFITH, the eldest son of BARTON and ELEANOR HIGGS of South Stoke—abused the trust which had been placed in him, and it is evident that he appropriated this particular money to his own use. This was discovered when too late by the other



THE CHALICE.



THE PATEN.

PRESENTED TO ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, SOUTH STOKE, OXON, AS A LEGACY FROM THE REV.  
DR. GRIFFITH HIGGS BY HIS EXECUTORS IN 1660 AND STILL IN USE.

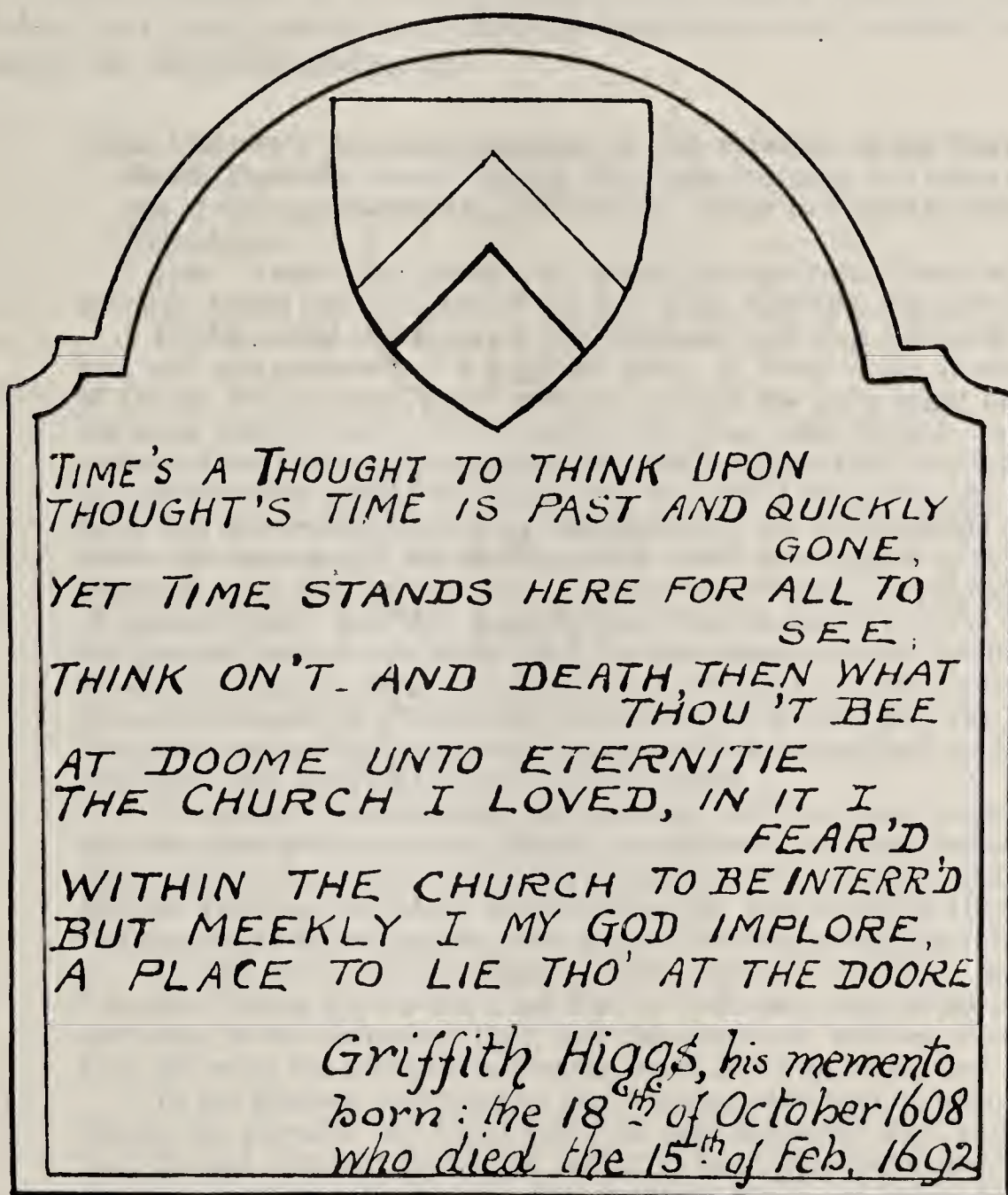
Recently a silversmith actually offered the Rev. H. G. Nind, M.A., Vicar of South Stoke, £300 for this chalice and paten. His reply was characteristic of him: "Sir, these do not belong to me; they belong to the Church and cannot be sold."

two executors, and very strong mention is made of this matter in the will of one of these, namely, NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick (by Cold Ash) in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks (P.C.C. 1666 Mico fo. 9). It would also appear that ere the executor GRIFFITH HIGGS died, he repented of the wrong he had committed; he wrote an inscription which he desired would be placed over the entrance porch to St. Andrew's Church as a warning to others, and in token of his own repentance in this and other matters, and *was buried outside* the church in which so many of his ancestors, and family, had been laid to rest. He was eighty-four years old when he passed away. After the death of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS this nephew GRIFFITH became possessed of a copyhold estate in South Stoke worth





£50 per annum. He lived and boarded with his nephew BARTON DAY, to whom he made over all his personal estate, stock and crop. It would appear from Depositions in Chancery after his decease that BARTON DAY had taken advantage of his old uncle, had boarded him badly and "Forced him to drink water instead of beer"; that BARTON



MURAL TABLET OVER THE PORCH OF THE  
CHURCH AT SOUTH STOKE, OXON., TO  
GRIFFITH THE ELDEST SON OF BARTON &  
ELEANOR HIGGS.

*Note.*—It is significant to note that those who carried out GRIFFITH HIGGS's desire in placing this memento over his last resting-place—in, or by, the porch of St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke—did not have the family Arms completed, and it is touching also to note that he did not esteem himself worthy of a place to lie *within* the Church with his uncle and grandparents.

DAY had buried him, and had spent the least possible amount upon his funeral; that BARTON DAY did enjoy the greater part of two years' profit for the executor's year by the death of his uncle GRIFFITH of his copyhold estate, which executor's year was worth £100, and upwards, to him for the said BARTON DAY had "cut up the quick hedges,





and pulled up the dry hedges, and cut up some of the apple trees and made the best of the said executor's year from this estate". This caused action to be taken in Chancery by various members of the HIGGS family against BARTON DAY, who administered the estate of his old uncle.

These Depositions in Chancery (Public Record Office, London, Chancery Depositions before 1714, 6/27), which were taken at South Stoke on 7. October, 1695 (6 William & Mary), are decidedly interesting :

**"His Majesty's Attorney General at the relation of the Parishioners of Stoke South** Plaintiffs, *versus* **Barton Day** (Administrator of GRIFFITH HIGGS, deceased, one of the executors of GRIFFITH HIGGS, Doctor in Divinity, deceased), **and Others,** Defendants.

"JOHN HIGGS, the younger of South Stoke, Oxon., yeoman, aged 22 years and upwards, sworn and examined *on the part of the plaintiffs*, deposeth as followeth :

"To the second interrogatory this deponent saith that GRIFFITH HIGGS the executor had, and was possessed of, a copyhold estate in South Stoke aforesaid, after the death of Doctor HIGGS, worth £50 a year and so much the same might have been let for, had the same been to be let to a tenant to the true value thereof. And that the present tenant, of the said copyhold estate, told this deponent that he purchased the said copyhold estate of the Lord of the Manor after the rate of £50 per annum. And this deponent saith that he would have given £50 per annum for the said copyhold of the said GRIFFITH HIGGS the executor, if he, this deponent, could have rented it at that price, but this deponent saith that he doth not remember that the said copyhold estate was ever let at a yearly rent. And this deponent saith that BARTON DAY, the defendant, did enjoy the greatest part of two years' profit for the executor's year by the death of GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor, of the copyhold estate, and that the said executor's year was worth £100 and upwards to the said defendant DAY, for the said DAY cut up the quick hedges, and pulled up the dry hedges, and cut up some apple trees, and made the best of the said executor's year from off the said copyhold estate.

"To the ninth interrogatory this deponent saith that about twelve years and upwards this deponent heard GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor, say and declare to this deponent's father that he had made over all his personal estate, and stock, and crop to his kinsman BARTON DAY the defendant, and therefore the said GRIFFITH HIGGS the executor told this deponent's father that he could not give him the ploughing of his land.

"To the fourteenth interrogatory this deponent saith that he did hear the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor, say that he had made over all his personal estate, stock and crop, to the defendant DAY, and this deponent believes that the said defendant DAY did enjoy the said personal estate, stock and crop, to his own and no other use.

"To the fifteenth interrogatory this deponent saith that he believes the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor, did board with the said defendant DAY, and this deponent saith that the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor's board was worth about £12 a year, and this deponent further saith that he this deponent could and would have boarded the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor, as well as the said defendant DAY did for £12 a year.

"To the eighteenth interrogatory this deponent saith that he believes that BARTON DAY, the defendant, was at the charge of the funeral of GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor, and this deponent saith that he hath heard and believes that the charge of the funeral of the said GRIFFITH HIGGS did not amount to above thirty shillings.

"To the four and twentieth interrogatory this deponent saith that he hath very well known BARTON SHINGLETON, and ELIZABETH FULLER in this interrogatory mentioned for about twelve years. And this deponent saith that he saw the said ELIZABETH FULLER take a sheaf of tythe corn that did belong to the Lord of the Manor ; and likewise this deponent did catch the said BARTON SHINGLETON astealing of his this deponent's fruit out of this deponent's orchard. And that the said ELIZABETH FULLER is but an ill-living woman and apt to make difference and strife among her neighbours.

"Deposition of—

"JOHN HIGGS of Hurley, Co. Berks., Yeoman, aged 50 years and upwards, sworn and examined *on the part of the defendants*, deposeth as followeth :

"To the tenth interrogatory this deponent saith that he hath paid and contributed





towards the charges of the carrying on of this suit against the defendants, and that he this deponent is under an article of agreement under this deponent's hand and seal to contribute towards the same charges of maintaining and prosecuting this suit against the defendants. And that this deponent being then an inhabitant of the said parish of South Stoke, and having since left the same parish, hopes thereby to be excused from contributing any further towards the charges in prosecuting this suit as aforesaid. And this suit is likewise carried on at the charges of several others who are likewise parties to the said Articles of agreement.

“Deposition of—

“WILLIAM HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon., Yeoman, aged 50 years and upwards sworn and examined *on the behalf of the defendants*, deposeth as followeth :

“To the tenth interrogatory this deponent saith that he doth pay and contribute towards the charges of the carrying on this suit against the defendants, and that he this deponent is under an Article of agreement to contribute towards the same charges of maintaining and executing this suit against the defendants, and that this suit is likewise carried on at the charges of several others who are likewise parties to the said Articles.

“Deposition of—

“JOHN HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS of South Stoke, Yeoman, aged 20 years and upwards, sworn and examined *on the part of the plaintiffs* deposeth as followeth :

“To the fifteenth interrogatory this deponent saith that he believes that the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor, did board with BARTON DAY the defendant, and this deponent saith that the said GRIFFITH HIGGS the executor's board with the defendant DAY was not worth above £10 by the year, for this deponent saith that he could and would have boarded the said GRIFFITH HIGGS—the executor—as well, if not better than the said DAY boarded the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, for £10 a year if he this deponent were a housekeeper (but never was).

“To the eighteenth interrogatory this deponent saith that he believes that BARTON DAY, the defendant, was at the charge of the funeral of the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor. And this deponent saith that the funeral charge of the said GRIFFITH HIGGS did not amount to twenty shillings and upwards.

“To the four and twentieth interrogatory this deponent saith that he hath very well known BARTON SHINGLETON and ELIZABETH FULLER in this interrogatory mentioned for about fourteen years. And this deponent saith that they are reputed, and taken to be, an idle, pilfering, lying sort of people, and make it their business to go about telling stories among their neighbours. And this deponent saith that BARTON SHINGLETON follows the trade of selling of beer in South Stoke aforesaid, and saith that the said ELIZABETH FULLER works sometimes when she can get it.

“Deposition of—

“WILLIAM HIGGS, the younger, of South Stoke, Oxon., yeoman, aged 25 years or thereabouts, sworn and examined *on the part of the plaintiffs* deposeth as followeth :

“In the fifteenth interrogatory this deponent saith that he believes that GRIFFITH HIGGS—the executor—did board with the defendant DAY. And this deponent saith that the said GRIFFITH HIGGS—the executor's board with the defendant DAY, was not worth above £10 a year. And this deponent further saith that he would, and could, have boarded the said GRIFFITH HIGGS—the executor—as well, if not better than the said defendant DAY boarded the said GRIFFITH HIGGS for £10 per annum, if this deponent were a housekeeper (but never was). And this deponent hath heard that the said GRIFFITH HIGGS was but indifferently boarded or attended by reason he hath heard that the said GRIFFITH HIGGS hath complained that he hath been forced to drink water instead of beer when he was at board with the defendant DAY.

“To the eighteenth interrogatory this deponent saith that he believes that BARTON DAY the defendant was at the charge of the funeral of the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor. And this deponent believes that the said funeral charge did not amount to above twenty shillings.

“To the four and twentieth interrogatory this deponent saith that he knoweth BARTON SHINGLETON and ELIZABETH FULLER in this interrogatory mentioned. And saith that he hath very well known them these fifteen years and upwards. And this deponent saith that they have the repute and fame among their neighbours for stealing, pilfering, lying people for that this deponent's father's servant told this deponent that





he saw BARTON SHINGLETON carry away a horse-load of vetches from this deponent's father's land. And this deponent saith that the said SHINGLETON keeps a little victualling house in South Stoke, aforesaid, and saith that the said ELIZABETH FULLER is a poor widow woman, and hath several small children, and receiveth alms of the parish but hath a small copyhold of her own."

From the deposition of JOHN HIGGS, the younger, of South Stoke, who was aged twenty-two at the time of his making his affidavit in this suit, and who, with little doubt, was JOHN, the son of JOHN HIGGS of South Stoke by SUSANNAH BRISTOW, his wife (who inherited under his father's will\* the "Small silver drinking tunne" or tankard which had been left to his father by Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, being the royal gift from PRINCE PHILLIP OF BOHEMIA), that BARTON DAY would have taken possession of the oil portrait of the KING and QUEEN OF BOHEMIA which had been willed to GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor of Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS's will, as GRIFFITH HIGGS the executor had, during the last years of his life, whilst boarding with BARTON DAY, made over all his personal estate to the said BARTON DAY.

In 1742† at Sulham Parish Church, Co. Berks, one GRIFFIN DAY married on 13 June MARY SLATER of Streatley. GRIFFIN DAY is described as "of Goring", and there can be little doubt that he was a son of BARTON DAY of South Stoke, and a brother of the above BARTON.

From a Suit in Chancery (*Warner versus Higgs*, 23 May, 1692 (Bridges 299/71) it appears that the Rev. Dr. HIGGS, during the latter part of his life, loaned to Mr. SAMUEL AVERY, Alderman of London, two sums of money, namely, seven hundred pounds and eight hundred pounds, which, at the time of Dr. HIGGS's decease, had not been paid back, and were not paid back to his estate at the time of this suit, though security had been taken at the time of the loan, part in the name of RICHARD HANNS as to the £700, and part in the name of WALTER JEMOTT, brother-in-law of Dr. HIGGS, and father-in-law of JAMES WARNER, as to the £800.

By an indenture, dated 12 May, 1686, GRIFFITH HIGGS, one of the executors of Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS's will, sold unto SAMUEL LOCK of the City of London, merchant, certain lands in the Barony of Tynihinch, Queen's County, Ireland, which the executors had purchased from Mr. SAMUEL AVERY. Certain of the descendants of WALTER JEMOTT demanded an account of the proceedings. It would appear that GRIFFITH HIGGS the executor, who had failed in the matter of the School Trust, had erred in this matter also. The result of the suit was that according to Chancery Proceedings,‡ 21 July, 1693, Mr. SAMUEL LOCK§ agreed to make settlement with the descendants of WALTER JEMETT to the extent of £170. WALTER JEMETT,|| who had gone security for the £800 loan, had paid to the estate the sum of £250—apparently the unpaid portion of that loan.

The following is a copy of an abstract made from Chancery Proceedings before 1714, Mitford 437/46, in reference to this matter :

"A.D. 1693, July 21.

"To the right honorable SIR JOHN SOMERS, knight, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England.

"Humbly complaining sheweth unto your good lordship your daily orator SAMUEL

\* Will of JOHN HIGGS of South Stoke, 1683, 'Arch. Oxon.', ser. II, vol. ii, fo. 297.

† Sulham Parish Registers.

‡ Chancery Proceedings, Mitford 437/46, Public Record Office.

§ Mr. SAMUEL LOCK, or LOCKE, of St. Margaret Pattens, London, Merchant, was baptized at St. John the Baptist Church, Bristol, 30 April, 1644. He was son of JOHN LOCKE, the younger, a merchant of Bristol, and his mother was MARIEBELLE, a daughter of ALDERMAN SAMUEL AVERY of London. Mr. SAMUEL LOCKE was a grandson of ALDERMAN JOHN LOCKE, of Bristol, who was Mayor of that City 1641-1642, and said to have been a cousin of the father of the philosopher, JOHN LOCKE. Curiously enough the present wife of the compiler of this book is of the same family of LOCKE.

|| WALTER JEMET, JEMMETT or JEMMOTT married MARY, sister of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS. *Vide* Chapter II also Chancery Proceedings, Reynardson, 263/21.





Lock of the City of London, merchant. That whereas one GRIFFITH HIGGS, Doctor in Divinity, being possessed of a personal estate, and having taken security for £700 part thereof in the name of RICHARD HANNS for the payment of the same from one SAMUEL AVERY, one of the Aldermen of London, and for £800 other part thereof in the name of WALTER JEMOTT from the said SAMUEL AVERY for the payment of the same both which bonds were taken in trust for the said Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, and being so possessed of the said securities taken as aforesaid, the said Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS about 1659 made his last will and testament, and thereof made and constituted GRIFFITH HIGGS of South Stoke, Co. Oxon., yeoman, and GEORGE JEMOTT of Shiplake, Co. Oxon., yeoman and one NICHOLAS HIGGS his executors. The said GRIFFITH HIGGS, one of the executors of the said will proved the same, and not long after the said SAMUEL AVERY being fallen into decay in estate, and a prisoner in the Fleet, made his will and of the same made WILLIAM AVERY his son, and JOSHUA WARREN executors, and by his will empowered them to sell his lands in England and Ireland for the payment of his debts, and after died as by the said will proved in the Prerogative Court will appear.

"The said GRIFFITH HIGGS and GEORGE JEMOTT as executors of the said Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS (the third executor NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick, Par. of Thatcham Berks being deceased) exhibited their bill in Chancery against the said WILLIAM AVERY for payment of the debt due to the said GRIFFITH HIGGS. The said suit depended for several years until about 21 Charles II (1670) when it was decreed that the said lands should be sold for the payment of the said debt. About the 8th of July 1676 the said WILLIAM AVERY and JOSHUA WARREN sold to the said GRIFFITH HIGGS and GEORGE JEMOTT, all the lands etc. of SAMUEL AVERY, late of London, Alderman, lying in the Barony of Tynlilinch, in the Queen's County in Ireland, then or late in the tenure of NATHANIEL MARKS, gentleman.

"By an indenture dated the 12th May, 1686, the said GRIFFITH HIGGS sold unto your orator the said lands in Ireland. But now so it is may it please your lordship, JAMES WARNER and ANN his wife, one of the daughters of WALTER JEMOTT of Shiplake, Co. Oxon., and administratrix of the goods etc., with the will annexed of JOHN JEMOTT, one of the sons of the said WALTER JEMOTT, JOHN BOVINGTON and JOAN his wife, NATHANIEL BAKER and MARY his wife, and EDWARD HARWOOD and SARAH his wife, the said ANN, JOAN, MARY and SARAH being the surviving children of the said WALTER JEMOTT, have exhibited their bill in this court and thereby suggested that the £800 lent in the name of the said WALTER JEMOTT having not been disposed of by the will of the said Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, who was a chaplain to the late KING CHARLES I., the same £800 was left wholly to the use and benefit of the said WALTER JEMOTT who by his will dated the 9th of February 1675/6 (and proved by his son WALTER JEMOTT, who died intestate) did give the same to his seven children equally to be divided amongst them. And the said wife of JAMES WARNER, as administratrix with the will annexed of the said testator WALTER JEMOTT, demands an account from your orator of the estate of the said SAMUEL AVERY in Ireland sold to the said GRIFFITH HIGGS and GEORGE JEMOTT, and of the rents and profits of the same, and to have satisfaction of the debt of £800 out of the same. Whereupon it was agreed that your orator should pay £170 in full discharge of the claims of the said ANN, JOAN, MARY and SARAH, the surviving children of the said WALTER JEMOTT. But now they refuse to execute or perform the said agreement contrary to equity and good conscience etc. etc. etc.

2017976

"(Signed) LA JOHNSON."

See also *suit* WARNER v. HIGGS given in Part II of this volume.

An interesting sidelight into the character of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS is shown in a manuscript preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, and signed by the Doctor himself, wherein, during those last days spent in his native village, he endeavoured to act as peacemaker in family differences. Dr. HIGGS being present when JOHN HIGGS the elder of South Stoke—no doubt his uncle who witnessed his father GRIFFITH's will—was making his own will, intervened on behalf of one HENRY HERVEY who had married the said JOHN HIGGS's daughter. It appears, however, from the statement which the Doctor wrote and signed, that his efforts were futile, old JOHN HIGGS being obdurate in agreeing to do any more than he had already done for his son-in-law. However, by this





written statement he made it clear to the family that he had done his utmost to smooth out the difference which evidently existed between old JOHN HIGGS and his son-in-law. The following is a copy of this manuscript :

" MS. RAWLINSON C. 421, fo. 55.

" This is a true coppie of that Testimonie which Dr. HIGGS delivered to his Kinsman JOHN HIGGS, concerning the Difference betweene him, and HENRY HERVEY.

" I, GRIFFITH HIGGS, Doctor in Divinity, being (upon request of my kinsman JOHN HIGGS, the Elder, of South Stoke, in the Countie of Oxford, yeoman, lately deceased,) present at the making of his will, did putt him in minde, to doe something for his son-in-law HENRIE HERVEY ;

" He answered, that he had allreadie done for him, as much as for anie other of his sons-in-law ;

" Then I moved him, that he might be sent for to speake for himselfe ; because they differed in the manner of their reckonings ;

" He answered, that that was needles ; for he would doe noe more for him, than he had done allreadie ;

" I replied, the sending for him might prevent a difference betweene his Executor and him ;

" He answered, I feare not that ; for he can doe my Executor noe hurt.

" This I doe testifie ; and in acknowledgment thereof I doe hereunto sett my hand,

" (Signed)

*Griffith  
Higgs*

" Nov. 18, South Stoke  
1651, in Com : Oxon.

" Witsesse : WILLIAM SNOW."

Those last years of Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS at South Stoke must have been indeed sad ones ! His early life had been brilliant in his scholastic attainments and progress. His days spent at The Hague in administering to the spiritual needs of ELIZABETH, QUEEN OF BOHEMIA, in her sufferings had been indeed happy ones. His recall to England after some ten years in the circle of the Bohemian Royal family had been crowned with preferment as Chaplain to KING CHARLES, and as Dean of Lichfield it had been his delight to spend time, thought and money upon the adornment of the beautiful cathedral church in which he served, until the Civil War brought disaster and ruin to his efforts, and he escaped imprisonment for his fidelity to the royal cause alone by payment of a large sum to the Parliament. We can picture those last years " spent in retirement, study and devotion " in the old home village, as news reached him of his royal master's sufferings and the effect of his trial, his sentence and execution at Whitehall in 1649. This must have been, indeed, a horror to him who, whilst knowing His Majesty's weaknesses in public affairs, knew so well the King's character, which was a pattern of all the private virtues and of faithfulness in the matters of State according to his views, and although the Doctor did not live to see the restoration of the monarchy in the person of CHARLES II a few months after his death, yet he was spared the regret that the dissolute







life of the son—who showed none of his father's virtues—would have given him. And so terminated the life of the brilliant son of GRIFFITH and SARA HIGGS of Barre Place, South Stoke, a Protestant to the core, but faithful to the Church of the State in which he firmly believed.



HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES I, BY THE GRACE OF GOD KING OF GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE AND IRELAND, DEFENDER OF THE FAITH, TO WHOM THE REV. DR. GRIFFITH HIGGS WAS APPOINTED CHAPLAIN IN 1638.

Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS gave a portion of his books to the Bodleian Library at Oxford ; he was a benefactor also to St. John's College, but the greater portion of his library he gave to Merton, including the special Bible presented to him by ELIZABETH, QUEEN OF BOHEMIA. It would therefore seem that whilst some of his printed books were seized by the forces of the Parliament, upon the surrender of the Close and Fortress of Lichfield, and





taken to the library at Stafford, he took a number of them with him from Lichfield when he left the Close and went to Oxford during the Civil War, and therefore, in all probability, Dr. HIGGS left Lichfield with HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES ere that city surrendered, and some of his belongings were left to the care of COLONEL HARVEY or HERVY BAGOT.



MURAL MONUMENT TO THE REV. DR. GRIFFITH (OR GRIFFIN) HIGGS, IN  
S. ANDREW'S CHURCH, S. STOKE, OXON.

The Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS passed away on 16 December, 1659, aged seventy, and his earthly remains were laid to rest in the chancel of the Church of St. Andrew, South Stoke. Over this spot may be seen a fine mural tablet, surmounted by a bust of the Doctor, and above this memorial the family arms and crest.

His will was proved in March, 1660, by—his executors and nephews—GRIFFITH,





eldest son of BARTON and ELEANOR HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon, GEORGE JEMMOTT, son of WALTER and MARY JEMMOTT or JEMMETT of Shiplake, Oxon, and NICHOLAS, son of NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick, by Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, and reads as follows :

THE WILL OF THE REV. GRIFFITH HIGGS, DOCTOR IN DIVINITY. (SON OF GRIFFITH AND SARA HIGGS, OF SOUTH STOKE, AND A BROTHER OF NICHOLAS HIGGS, YEOMAN OF THATCHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF BERKS.)

*Proved in the P.C.C. Ref. " Nabbs " fo. 8, 1659. Original Will at Somerset House, London.*

**In the Name of God, Amen :** the two and twentieth day of August, in the year of Our Lord, according to the computation of the Church of England, One thousand, six hundred and fifty nine, GRIFFITH HIGGS the Elder of South Stoke, in the county of Oxon., Doctor in Divinity and sometime Dean of the Cathedral Church at Lichfield, in the County of Stafford, knowing well the certainty of Death, and the uncertainty of the hour thereof, and having at this present (Thanks be given unto God for it) perfect health of body, and the right use of my senses, memory and understanding, do intend at this time to dispose of that worldly estate, wherewith God hath blessed me, and to set my temporal, as well as my spiritual, house in order, and for that purpose I do at this present time make this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following :—

**First :** I do bequeath my soul to Almighty God, Who gave it with full persuasion and assurance of Salvation by the precious Death and Passion, and by the merits of Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, my only and ever blessed Saviour and Redeemer ; and my body to be committed to the earth from whence it came with Christian burial, if it shall so please God, in expectation of a glorious Resurrection.

**Item :** I give and bequeath to the Parish Church of South Stoke in the County of Oxon., where I was born, the sum of five pounds and to the poor of the said Parish of South Stoke, the sum of five pounds yearly for ever, and for that purpose I do require my executor, or executors, hereinafter named, that within one year after my decease, he or they shall lay out One hundred pounds to purchase free land of Soccage Tenure, and of five pounds yearly value at least, and charge that land with the payment of this five pounds yearly for ever towards the maintenance of the poor of the Parish of South Stoke aforesaid. Concerning the yearly distribution of this money my will is that it shall be disposed of to such persons, and in such manner, as I have, or shall, set down in a Codicill under my hand and seal, or other writing to be annexed to this my last Will and Testament.

**Item :** I give and bequeath to the Warden & Scholars of the house or college of scholars of Merton, in the University of Oxford :—All my printed books, and all my maps, wheresoever they—that is either the books or maps—be, at Lichfield, Elme,\* Hurst, Stafford, London, Cliffe, South Stoke or elsewhere, together with those books which are in the hands of Mr. RICHARD HARRISON, lately Minister of Tettenhall, near Wolverhampton, in the county of Stafford of what language, faculty, profession, or kind soever, for the use of their College Library, desiring them (if in their wisdom they shall think fitting) to exchange such books as they have already for others, and to retain all such as they had not either in that kind, or in that Volume and Edition :

*Particularly I do give and bequeath unto them, for the use of their said Library a fair English Bible, in folio gilded, and richly enamelled, with large Blue Silk Strings and Gold Fringes, which was given me by Her Majesty, my gracious Mrs., the QUEEN OF BOHEMIA.*

And, in case these books of mine, which at present are kept in a Library in Stafford Town (which are the far greatest part of my Library) or any other books, which dispersed in other places, shall at any time hereafter by the Solicitations of the said Warden and Scholars, or by any other means possible be recovered, I do likewise give and bequeath all of them to the use of the College Library in Merton College aforesaid.

**Item :** I do require my executor, or executors hereinafter named, to deliver up all my written sermons, paper books, note books, letters, ovations, disputations, suppositions and all kind of writings belonging to either Divinity or humanity, or any other kind of learning whatsoever they be (excepting those papers and writings which do in anywise

\* Ewelme, Oxon., about 3 miles from Wallingford, Berks.





belong to my temporal estate) into the hands of these four friends, viz :—Doctor RICHARD BAYLY, sometime Dean of Salisbury, and President of St. John Baptist College in Oxford ; Doctor GILLINGHAM, sometimes Prebend of Windsor ; Doctor JOHN OLIVER, sometime President of Magdalen College in Oxford, and Doctor EDWARD REYNOLDS, now Minister of St. Lawrence Jewry Church in London, whom I do earnestly desire to peruse them, and then dispose of them privately, or publicly, according to their discretions.

**Item :** I do give and bequeath to the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors for the time being, and other overseers of the Public Libraries in the University of Oxon.—called Bodley's Library, the sum of One hundred pounds to be laid out for the use of the said Library upon buying of Divinity books, especially some choice books of Controversial, Casuistical and Critical Learning in Divinity, and some of the most learned Commentators, Chronologers, and Writers upon difficult places of Scripture, and this is to be done within one year after the receipt of the money, or else the said sum of One hundred pounds is to be paid back again to my executor, or executors hereinafter named.

Likewise, I do give and bequeath to Merton College, and to St. John Baptist College, both in the said University of Oxford, the sum of fifty pounds a piece (Viz.) Fifty pounds to each of them to be paid out for the use of their College Libraries respectively upon buying of such kind of Divinity books as are before mentioned for Bodley's Library, according to the proportion of their money, and that is to be done within one year after the receipt of the money or else the said sums, or either of them not employed within the time limited, is to be repaid back again to my executor, or executors hereinafter named.

**Item :** I do require my executor, or executors, hereafter named, by the assistance and direction of Mr. SAMUEL AVERY (AVERIE), late Alderman of the City of London, to lay out *One hundred pounds upon a very fair cup and cover, both of them of solid and massive gold, with the Arms of the QUEEN OF BOHEMIA to be engraved on it, and by the means of the said Mr. ALDERMAN AVERY to send, and humbly present it to Her Majesty for her many gracious favours vouchsafed to me.* Also I do give and bequeath another One hundred pounds to be distributed by my executor, or executors, equally amongst twenty poor sequestred Ministers about London, Oxfordshire, Staffordshire, Kent or elsewhere, Viz :—Five pounds to each of them, who shall all be nominated either by myself in a Codicill to be annexed to this my last Will and Testament, or by my executor, or executors, and whom he or they shall request to assist him or them in it.

I do give and bequeath unto my five God-children—That is to say BARTON HIGGS, son of my brother BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke in the County of Oxon., GRIFFITH HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS ; WILLIAM SNOW, son of WILLIAM SNOW, Vicar ; BARTON CRUCHFIELD,\* son of BARTON CRUCHFIELD, and MARGARET HARVEY, daughter of HENRY HARVEY, all of the said South Stoke, the sum of ten pounds to be equally divided among them—That is to say forty shillings to each of them.

To JOHN DEACON, of the same South Stoke, sometime my servant five pounds.

To HILLARY BRISTOW, ANDREW SHINGLETON, TOBIE GREENE, JOHN JOHNSON, FRANCIS CRIPPS, JOHN AYRE, RICHARD AV RUTH, THOMAS WILDER—the Smith, CHRISTOPHER MIDDLETON, HENRY MIDDLETON, PETER ILSLEY, THOMAS SMITH, WILLIAM SMITH, old WILLIAM LEWINDEN, sometime a bargeman, RICHARD AWBERRIE, JOHN WAKELYN, and HENRY NEWBERRIE (Newbury) all of South Stoke—twenty shillings a piece.

To THOMAS HEVER, the elder, and GRIFFITH SELLWOOD, both of Woodcot, twenty shillings a piece, and twenty shillings a piece more to four poor persons of Woodcot and Exlade, in the Parish of South Stoke aforesaid, such as my brother BARTON HIGGS, or my executor or executors, shall think most fitting and shall appoint.

And likewise, to ALICE BROWNE and SARAH BROWNE the daughters of old WILLIAM BROWNE, sometime an inhabitant of South Stoke aforesaid ten shillings apiece, where-soever they do, or shall dwell, provided always that these legacies shall not debar any of those poor persons above mentioned from the benefit of my yearly exhibition to the poor of the Parish of South Stoke ; but so long as they shall continue inhabitants of the said parish, they may in any year be capable of being nominated unto it, the rules and orders being set down in the Codicill annexed to this my last Will and testament being observed.

\* EMMA HIGGS of Basildon, Berks, was married there in 1561 to one HENRY CRUCHFIELD, and on 7 February, 1626, another HENRIE CRUCHFIELD (probably a grandson), son of GRIFFIN CRUCHFIELD and JANE his wife, was baptized at Blewbury, Berks.





**Item :** I do give and bequeath unto my eldest brother BARTON HIGGS, my small silver watch, with a silver case, made by the watchmaker of The Hague in Holland; to his wife my Sister-in-law my silver candlestick, with the silver sockett, and one small silver trencher salt cellar, and the best of my silk Grogramme Gowns.

To their eldest son GRIFFITH HIGGS, my best cloth cloak lined throughout with velvet.

To their second son BARTON HIGGS, my Godson, my other cloth cloak lined through with velvet and—

To their third son JOHN HIGGS, a small silver drinking tun (or tankard) which was given me by PRINCE PHILLIP—one of the sons of the QUEEN OF BOHEMIA and—

To their five daughters, two small Gilt Bibles in octavo, three wrot purses, and three small table books, all to be distributed amongst them by the discretion of their mother, and in money one hundred and fifty pounds to be divided equally amongst them—That is to say To their daughter ELEANOR—Thirty pounds; to their daughter MARIE—thirty pounds; to their daughter SARA—Thirty pounds; to their daughter ELIZABETH—Thirty pounds and to their daughter MAGDALEN—Thirty pounds. And likewise concerning the pictures which I brought with me from the Hague into England, I have and do dispose of them against my Brother BARTON HIGGS, his children in this manner following. That is to say—I do give and bequeath to his eldest son GRIFFITH HIGGS the pictures of the KING & QUEEN OF BOHEMIA;

To his second son BARTON HIGGS—The picture of the present PRINCE ELECTOR PALATINE.

To his third son JOHN HIGGS—The *picture of PRINCE RUPERT if he can secure it from SIR HERVY BAGGOTT's son, who being Governor of Lichfield carried it away with him.*

To his eldest daughter ELEANOR—The picture of the OLD PRINCE OF ORANGE HENRY FREDERICK and his PRINCESS, now Dowager.

To his second daughter MARIE HIGGS—The picture of the QUEEN OF BOHEMIA's eldest daughter PRINCESS ELIZABETH.

To his third daughter SARA DAY—The Picture of the above named old PRINCE OF ORANGE, his eldest son.

To his fourth daughter ELIZABETH BANKES, the picture of the QUEEN OF BOHEMIA's eldest son HENRY FREDERICK who was drowned and—

To his fifth daughter MAGDALEN TWIDDY—The picture of the QUEEN OF BOHEMIA's second daughter PRINCESS LOUISA.

**Item :** I do give and bequeath to my eldest sister MARIE JEMOTT of Shiplake in the County of Oxon., widow—a gold ring with a fair diamond in it in the form of a heart, given me by HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF BOHEMIA.

To my sister-in-law ANNE, the late wife of my brother NICHOLAS HIGGS, in the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks., widow, another gold ring with a lesser diamond in it, set upon claws, and one small silver trencher salt cellar.

To the wife of my nephew RICHARD WILDER of the Parish of Goring, in the County of Oxon., Yeoman, son of my sister MAGDALEN BROWNE lately deceased—Six plain silver spoons with the letters of my name upon the end of every one of them, and one small silver trencher salt cellar.

Moreover, in case any person or persons unto whom I have given or bequeathed any legacies either of money or goods in this my last Will and Testament shall not rest satisfied and contented with it being paid or tendered according to this my present Will, but shall be contentious and raise debates and suites of law against my executor, or executors, or be in any wise troublesome unto them; Then my Will is that the said person or persons, man or woman, shall be utterly deprived of that legacy, and of all other benefits whatsoever which should or might arise unto him or her by virtue of this my last Will and Testament. Anything herein contained to the contrary thereof notwithstanding; and that the said legacy or money or goods, or other benefit shall return wholly and entirely to my executor, or executors.

Likewise, whereas I have heretofore freely and absolutely given certain sums of money to some of my kindred and other friends, and whereas several bonds, and other writings concerning those sums have been legally, and before sufficient witnesses, sealed, signed and delivered to them to their use, my Will is, and I do hereby declare that the money mentioned in those bonds and writings, and what money soever also shall be due by virtue of them shall be payable unto those to whom I have, before making and sealing of this my last Will and Testament, assigned and disposed it not unto me. Neither shall it belong to my executor or executors.







# PRINCE RUPERT.

SON OF

THEIR MAJESTIES THE KING AND  
QUEEN OF BOHEMIA  
AND A NEPHEW OF  
KING CHARLES I.

*He appointed Col. Harvey Bagot  
Governor of the Garrison of Lichfield  
21 April 1643, upon the surrender of  
the fortress to him by Col. Rouswell, or Russell,  
of the Parliamentary Forces, in which capa-  
city Col. Bagot remained until 10 July 1646  
when being satisfied of the desperate situ-  
ation of the King's cause the fortress was  
surrendered finally to the Adjutant-Genl  
Louthian, upon honourable conditions.*

*Col. Harvey, or Hervy, Bagot took  
with him the oil portrait of Prince  
Rupert left in his keeping by the Rev.<sup>d</sup>  
Dr. Griffith Higgs, Dean of Lichfield.  
upon his vacating the Close. (VIDE: THE RE-  
FERENCE MADE TO THIS PORTRAIT IN DR. HIGGS'S Will)*





**Item :** I do ordain, make, constitute, and appoint my three nephews (vizd) GRIFFITH HIGGS, son of my Brother BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke in the County of Oxon., Yeoman ; GEORGE JEMMOTT of the Parish of Shiplake in the same County of Oxon., Yeoman ; and NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick, in the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks., Yeoman, son of my brother NICHOLAS HIGGS of the same Parish and County, Yeoman, lately deceased, to be my Joint Executors of this my last Will & Testament.

Nevertheless my Will and meaning is—That the said NICHOLAS HIGGS, his executor, administrators and assigns, shall have and enjoy the executor year of my two copyholds within the Manor of South Stoke, aforesaid, commonly known and called by the name—One of Dancastells, the other of Brill's, both now in the occupation of JOHN WILDER, according to the custom of the said Manor wholly and solely unto himself, provided all the ways, be the said NICHOLAS HIGGS, his executors, administrators or assigns shall upon his and their own proper costs and charges, satisfy the Lord of the Manor for the time being for the two herriots which shall be due unto him out of the said two copyholds. All the rest of my goods and estate, not as yet disposed of either heretofore, or in this my present Will and Testament, I do give unto my above named three executors—GRIFFITH HIGGS, GEORGE JEMMOTT, and NICHOLAS HIGGS to be jointly and equally received and enjoyed by them. And I do require them to pay all my debts and to discharge all the legacies given and mentioned in this my last Will and Testament, within the space of one whole year after my decease, if the money can be soon gotten in ; they not neglecting all possible means to procure it.

Likewise, I do require them to see me Christianly and decently buried (if God shall so permit) either in Merton College in Oxford where I was brought up, or in the Parish Church or Chancel of South Stoke, where I was borne, wheresoever it shall please God to be ; to defray all my funeral charges, and to set up some tomb or monument for me of about . . . or . . . pounds charge, whatsoever the overseers hereafter named shall think fit, with such inscription as the said overseers shall either receive from me or compose for me.

**Item :** I do nominate and appoint, my four worthy friends above named—That is to say—*Doctor* BAYLEY, *Doctor* GILLINGHAM, *Doctor* OLIVER and *Doctor* REYNOLDS to be the overseers of this my last Will and Testament, earnestly desiring them to advise and assist my executors in all points concerning their executorship and straightly requiring my executors to be guided and ruled by them. And for the care and assistance of the said overseers, I do give and bequeath unto them twenty pounds—That is to say Five pounds to every one of them to be paid presently after my decease, and I do desire of them to accept it. This I do acknowledge to be my true last Will and Testament written and in some places underlined all with mine own hand.

IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year above written—

*Griffith  
Higgs*



ARMORIAL IMPRESSION  
IN THE PARCHMENT  
OF THE REV. DR.  
GRIFFITH HIGGS'S  
WILL, NOT A WAX  
SEAL.

**Sealed, signed and published**

in the presence of—

THOMAS LOADER.  
BENJAMIN STONE.

**The Codicill** concerning the distribution of the five pounds given in my last Will and Testament yearly to the poor of the Parish of South Stoke, in the County of Oxon.

Concerning the yearly distribution of five pounds, which in my last Will and Testament I have given to the poor of the Parish of South Stoke, in the County of Oxon., my Will is that it be disposed on in this manner following—viz :—

Three pounds every year to six poor families in South Stoke Town, or that part of





the Parish which is called—'Below the hill' to be paid half yearly—I mean—Thirty shillings every half year that is to say—Five shillings apiece to every family upon the first Sabbath Day after the five and twentieth day of December and the other thirty shillings—that is five shillings apiece more to the same six families, upon Easter Day following. And Forty shillings every year to six poor families in Woodcote & Exlade to be paid likewise half yearly, I mean Twenty shillings every half year—That is—Three shillings and four pence apiece to every family upon the foremost days, both payments to be discharged in the Parish Church of South Stoke, immediately after Morning Prayers, and those 'Above the hill' may receive their money at Woodcote in the Chappel, immediately after Morning Prayers and Sermon; and all those twelve families are to be present either in the Parish Church at South Stoke 'Below the Hill', or in the Chappel 'Above the hill' after Prayers, unless the Electors (Those who are yearly to nominate the families) or the major part of them do allow of the cause of their absence howsoever one at least of each family, and that one, one of the chiefest persons man or woman shall be there, or else the portion belonging to that family for that time shall be forfeited as to them and shall be distributed equally amongst the other five families, either of South Stoke or of Woodcote and Exlade, where the absent family resideth.

**Secondly :** the Six families of both places 'Below the Hill' and 'Above the Hill' shall be changed every year. I mean the same six families shall not receive the allowance two years immediately together, neither in South Stoke, nor in Woodcote and in Exlade; but every year six new families shall be nominated unto it, provided always that the Electors shall never nominate any of those persons or families who at that present receive any collection from the Parish by the Overseers for the Poor.

**Thirdly :** the persons who are to nominate these families shall be the Lord of the Manor, or his farmer; the Vicar of the Parish both for the time being; the two Churchwardens, one 'Below the Hill' and the other 'Above the Hill'; two overseers for the Poor; one likewise 'Below the Hill' and the other 'Above the Hill'; my Elder Brother—BARTON HIGGS, and *after him the chiefest person, and nearest unto him of Family and Name in South Stoke Town so long as any of them shall be inhabitants of that place; and my executor and after him the owner of the land or his assigns for ever.*

**Fourthly** these eight persons, or the major part of them, shall every year upon Michaelmas Day nominate and appoint the Six Families in South Stoke Town, and the other Six Families of Woodcott & Exlade, who are to receive the above named allowance for that year ensuing: Viz.—Upon the first Sabbath immediately following after the five and twentieth Day of December reckoning from the aforesaid Michaelmas Day, and upon the next Easter Day immediately following that, and my executor, and after him the Owner of the Land or his assigns for ever to pay the money yearly to the several families respectively after Prayers and Sermons in the places, and upon the days appointed. Beginning the payment the same time as he doth the other legacies given in my last Will and Testament. Viz: One year after my decease, All those premises I do acknowledge to be my act, and in acknowledgement thereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this seventh day of April, in the year of Our Lord God, according to the computation of the Church of England, One thousand, Six Hundred and fifty Three.

*Griffith  
Higgs*



IMPRESSION IN THE  
PARCHMENT OF  
THE REV. DR.  
HIGGS'S WILL.

Sealed, signed and delivered  
in the presence of—

ROBERT STONE.  
BENJAMIN STONE.





This **Will** and **Codicill** was proved at London, the fourteenth day of March, in the year of Our Lord God, One Thousand, Six hundred, fifty and nine (English Stile) Before the Right Worshipful WALTER WALKER, WILLIAM TURNER, Doctors of Laws and Judges of the Court for Probate of Will, and granting administrations lawfully authorized By Oath of GRIFFITH HIGGS, one of the Executors in the said Will named—To whom was committed Administration of all and singular the goods, chattels and debts of the said deceased, he being first legally sworn well and truly to administer the same, reserving power nevertheless to GEORGE JEMMOTT and NICHOLAS HIGGS the other executors in the said Will named to make like probate when they shall legally require the same.

**From Proceedings in Chancery :** HIGGS *versus* THOMAS ET ALS. before 1714 and under date 16 December 1697 (Ref. Bridges 165/28) we learn something of the sad story of the manner in which GRIFFITH, the eldest son of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke, abused his trust as executor of the Rev. Doctor GRIFFITH HIGGS's Will. This has also been shown from the Depositions in Chancery which were taken at South Stoke on 7 October, 1695, in the Case of the PARISHIONERS OF SOUTH STOKE *versus* BARTON DAY, as already given, and the reader, upon referring to the Will of NICHOLAS HIGGS the Younger of Henwick in the Parish of Thatcham, Yeoman, will note his reference to this matter, which had all apparently happened without his knowledge although one of the executors.

A.D. 1697 : December 16. **Higgs versus Thomas and Others.** (Abstract.) Bridges 165/28 in the Public Record Office, London.

“ To the Right Hon<sup>ble</sup>. JOHN, LORD SOMERS, Baron of Evesham, Lord High Chancellor of England.

“ Complaining, shew unto your lordship your orators MARY HIGGS, widow of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke, Co. Oxon., Yeoman, deceased and JOHN HIGGS their only son, executors of the last Will and testament of the said BARTON HIGGS. That Doctor GRIFFITH HIGGS late of South Stoke D.D., deceased by his last Will devised £600 part of £860 owing to him by one HENRY SAMBORN of Moulsoford Co. Berks., to be laid out in the purchase of lands of inheritance of the yearly value of £30 for the erecting and perpetual maintaining of a *free Grammar School* in South Stoke, and of his Will appointed GRIFFITH HIGGS, GEORGE JEMMATT and others since deceased his executors, who by virtue of the said Will took possession of all the personal estate of the said Doctor HIGGS of the value of £10,000 . 0 . 0 and upwards, and ought to have proved the same Will. But, the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, who was the only acting executor by connivance of the rest concealed the said Will and possessed himself of all the said Doctor HIGGS personal estate amounting to many thousand pounds value, and the parishioners of South Stoke being informed of the said Will and of the great abuse committed by the said GRIFFITH HIGGS in concealing the same, and in converting the money given to the said charitable use as aforesaid to his own use, did about Easter 1692 in the name of the ATTORNEY GENERAL *ex RELATIONS* of the said parish exhibit an information and bill in this Court against your orators, and one BARTON DAY to whom the said GRIFFITH HIGGS had conveyed an estate in land of £20 per annum value, which he purchased with one SMITH with part of the said £600 in trust for the said charity as was pretended. And the said Attorney-General by the said information and bill did charge your orators to have got possession of other lands purchased of one ANTHONY HARVEY of the yearly value of £6.0.0 which was by the said parishioners alledged to be bought by the said GRIFFITH HIGGS with part of the said £600.0.0 charity money and in trust for the said charity as is pretended. And that the said GRIFFITH HIGGS had only mortgaged the same to your orator's father but with notice of the said charity and that he had purchased the same in trust for the said charity. But your orators show that the said GRIFFITH HIGGS did borrow of your orator's said father £100.0.0, and for the securing of repayment thereof with the interest did convey and mortgage the said HARVEY's lands to your orator's father. And the said BARTON HIGGS your orator's said father, being so seized and possessed of the said mortgaged premises made his last Will and appointed your orators executors thereof and soon after died, and your orators duly proved the said Will and thereby became entitled to the said mortgage and to all the personal estate of the said BARTON HIGGS. And your orators being in possession of the said mortgaged premises, and there being such information and bill exhibited in this court against your





orators, and the said BARTON DAY, as before set forth, one WILLIAM HIGGS and THOMAS WILDER parishioners of South Stoke, and persons who prosecuted the said information did together with MOSES SLADE their agent and solicitor, who is since dead, and with DAVID THOMAS, clerk, parson or vicar of South Stoke apply themselves to your orators to deliver to them, or one of them, the said mortgage upon their undertaking to pay your orators the money thereby secured. And thereupon your orators did by indorsement on the said Mortgage assign the same to the said DAVID THOMAS. But, so it is that since the said bill was dismissed your orators desired the said DAVID THOMAS, WILLIAM HIGGS the elder, and THOMAS WILDER to pay the said mortgage money and interest; or to restore unto your orators the possession of the said land and premises so mortgaged, but this they refuse to do, and the said DAVID THOMAS pretends he hath assigned and delivered up the said mortgage deed and possession of the said land, and premises to the said THOMAS WILDER and WILLIAM HIGGS who are in possession thereof, and do receive the rents and profits thereof. May therefore writs of subpena be directed unto the said DAVID THOMAS, WILLIAM HIGGS, the elder, and THOMAS WILDER thereby commanding them to appear in court there to answer the premises. And your orators shall ever pray etc.

“(Signed) WM. WHITELOCKE”.

From the above-given abstract of this Suit in Chancery sufficient is given to show what a mess had been made by GRIFFITH HIGGS, the nephew of Dr. HIGGS, in the maladministration of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS's estate and the family trouble that had been caused at this time in this matter.

GRIFFITH HIGGS, the executor, died five years before this suit was filed, as will be noted from the inscription over the porch of St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke, namely, on 15 February, 1692. He was an aged man in his eighty-fourth year, and from his “Memento” on the tablet over the porch it would seem that as the end of his earthly career drew nigh he keenly felt the grievous failings into which he had fallen, and this sad record is a warning to others in positions of trust.

The mural tablet within the church to the memory of the illustrious uncle of GRIFFITH HIGGS—the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS—is one of the most interesting memorials in the county. This large monument depicts the Doctor with Bible in hand, and over his head is the coat of arms of the “Noble branch, respectable and wealthy” of the HIGGS family living near Gloucester, from whom he himself or his overseers, stated him to have been descended. The translation of the Latin inscription upon the panel which occupies a position on the north wall of the Chancel, just above the spot where the remains of Dr. HIGGS were interred, is as follows :

### “Here Lies

“GRIFFIN HIGGS, a son happily born to GRIFFIN HIGGS and SARA PAIN, daughter of ROBERT PAIN of Caversham, in the County of Oxford. He was baptized on the St. Calendar day of St. Simon and Jude, near Stoke Abbas, in the same County, in the year of human salvation restored 1589. His paternal grandfather was a certain NICHOLAS HIGGS (his grandmother being MARY BARTON) sprung from a noble branch of the HIGGS family near Gloucester; he having accompanied his uncle WALTER from the town of Weobley in the County of Hereford, as far as Stoke Abbas, took up his abode there and left descendants alike rich and numerous.

“That GRIFFIN HIGGS after acquiring the first principals of classical learning, in as much as he obtained distinction in Logic and Philosophy under Dr. TILSLEY his tutor in St. John's College, Oxford, was received into the illustrious Fellowship of the College of Merton in the year 1611, and in the year 1622 was elected to the Mastership of the Academy.

“Afterwards in 1627 he was sent by HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES to be Chaplain to his sister ELIZABETH, QUEEN OF BOHEMIA. When he had discharged that office successfully for a period of twelve years, and had also been made Doctor of Divinity at Leyden, after a series of remarkable public examinations under the auspices of the renowned





# TABULATIO OF CHELTENHAM & BASILDON, BUCKERIDGE, KIBBLEWHITE & PLEYDALL

BUCKERIDGE = ELIZABETH  
 JOHN HIGGES of WESTALL in the Parish of CHELTENHAM Co. GLOUCESTER A Tutor of CHELTENHAM in 1520  
 possibly HIGGS her husband's Will was witnessed by one Nic. HIGGES.

JOHN KIBBLEWHITE of SOUTH FAWLEY Co. BUCKS., son of WILLIAM KIBBLEWHITE of that place, both living in 1496 (-12 HENRY VII)

THOMAS HIGGES H N BUCKERIDGE = AGNES  
 of CHELTENHAM Foreman of the Jury of TENANT for that place in 1561 (3 Eliz.) the probable Uncle of NICHOLAS HIGGES of S. STOKE OXON. who proved married MARY dau 5 67 & co-heire of GRIFFITH BARTON Esquire of Ch. Berks. BARRE PLACE SOUTH "F" (fo. 424) STOKE, OXON. in 1558 the grandparents of MORIER'S DICTIONARY the REV. DR. GRIFFITH "The Buckeridges HIGGS of S. STOKE and sildon came into NICHOLAS HIGGS of and 7. Wm the Con- THATCHAM, Co. BERKS. & all of the name supposed to be descended from them"

JOHN KIBBLEWHITE = MARY WM. WHITE of SOUTH FAWLEY & MAYDEN, Co. BUCKS. Note: he had brothers who settled at BLEWBURY CO., BERKS.

SIR THOMAS WHITE FOUNDER of ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE OXFORD LORD MAYOR of LONDON 1554. Note: The Life of Sir THOMAS WHITE was written by the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS of S. STOKE, OXON.

THOMAS HIGGES IN BUCKERIDGE = ANNIS WILLIAM  
 of CHELTENHAM BASILDON Lessee of the CHELTENHAM RECTORY JUROR UXOR 5 90 VIDE: HIGGS of CHELTENHAM Co. GLOUCESTER Part II.

BARD BUCKERIDGE of BASILDON mar. at RANGBOURNE She died 1598

THOMAS KIBBLEWHITE of BASILDON

NICHOLAS = JANE HIGGES of BASILDON Will proved 1583 Arch Berks. Reg "G" f. 377. JOHN BUCKERIDGE the Elder. was Exor. VIDE: HIGGS of BASILDON, BERKS Part II

THOMAS HIGGES JOHN BUCKERIDGE Gentleman Under Bailiff of CHELTENHAM.

ALICE married RICHARD WHISTLER Note: BARTON HIGGS of S. STOKE married ELEANOR WHISTLER

WILLIAM BUCKERIDGE of DRAYTON CERNE Co WILTS.

ELIZABETH KIBBLEWHITE

JOHN HIGGS alias JENKIN HIGGS of BASILDON Will pr 1598 MARY LEWIS married at BASILDON 5. OCT. 1562

THE REV. JOHN BUCKERIDGE D.D. BISHOP of ELY GRANDSON of JOHN HIGGS of HOOKEND BASILDON who died in 1566

THOMAS = KATHERINE HIGGS JOANE = THOMAS BUCKERIDGE HIGGS married at BASILDON 24 APR. 1592. of BASILDON Grand-daughter of NICHOLAS HIGGS of BASILDON 4 MAY 1589 at BASILDON. purchased by WILLIAM HIGGS Esq<sup>re</sup> GLOUCESTERSHIRE f383





TABULATION SHOWING INTERMARRIAGE BETWEEN THE FAMILIES OF-HIGGS of CHELTENHAM & BASILDON, BUCKERIDGE, KIBBLEWHITE & PLEYDALL.

JOHN HIGGES = JULIANA DE SANDFORD  
of WESTALL in the  
Parish of CHELTENHAM  
Co. GLOUCESTER.  
A Tutor of CHELTENHAM  
in 1520

The original owner of  
the HIGGS'S Estate in  
the Parish of CHELTENHAM  
from whom it passed to the  
HIGGS FAMILY



THOMAS = AGNES  
PLEYDALL  
OR  
PLEYDELL  
of COLESHILL  
Co. BERKS.  
ESQ. d. 1527.

JOHN BUCKERIDGE = ELIZABETH  
of  
BASILDON  
Co. BERKS.  
husbandman  
Will pr. 14 Dec.  
1525 Arch. Berks.  
Reg. A f 312.

possibly  
HIGGS  
her husband's Will  
was witnessed by  
one Nic. HIGGES.

JOHN KIBBLEWHITE =  
of SOUTH FAWLEY  
Co. BUCKS., son of  
WILLIAM KIBBLEWHITE  
of that place, both  
living in 1496  
(12 HENRY VII)

THOMAS HIGGES =  
of CHELTENHAM  
Foreman of the JURY  
of TENANT for that  
place in 1561 (3 Eliz.)  
the probable Uncle  
of NICHOLAS HIGGES  
of S. STOKES OXON. who  
married MARY dau.  
& co-heire of GRIFFIN  
BARTON Esquire of  
BARRE PLACE SOUTH  
STOKES OXON. in 1558,  
the grandparents of  
the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH  
HIGGS of S. STOKES and  
NICHOLAS HIGGS of  
THATCHAM, Co. BERKS.

? Possibly  
LOWE.  
(WILLIAM  
HIGGS, Esquire  
of COLESBOURNE  
had cousins of  
this name.)

Note: The HIGGS  
Arms, confirmed to  
THOMAS HIGGS of  
COLESBOURNE, Co. GLOUCESTER  
in 1623 are recorded in  
use by one SYMON HEGGYS  
temp. HENRY VI and are found  
emblazoned upon a Roll of Arms  
of that period



WILLIAM  
PLEYDALL =  
Esquire, of  
COLESHILL  
Co. BERKS.  
died 1565

ANNE  
dau. &  
co-heire  
of  
ROBERT  
REASON  
Esquire of  
CORFE CASTLE  
in the County  
of DORSET.

JOHN  
BUCKERIDGE =  
of  
BASILDON  
Yeoman.  
Will proved  
1567  
(Arch. Berks.  
Reg. F f 424)

Note: MORIER'S DICTIONARY  
states "The Buckeridges  
of Basildon came into  
England 7. Wm the Con-  
queror & all of the name  
are supposed to be des-  
cended from them"

AGNES  
her Will  
was proved  
in 1576  
(Arch. Berks  
Reg. G f 88)

JOHN KIBBLEWHITE =  
of SOUTH FAWLEY &  
MAYDEN, Co. BUCKS.

Note: he had brothers  
who settled at  
BLEWBURY  
Co. BERKS.

MARY = WM.  
WHITE  
of  
READING  
BERKS.

SIR THOMAS  
WHITE  
FOUNDER of  
ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE  
OXFORD  
LORD MAYOR of  
LONDON 1554.  
Note: The Life of Sir  
THOMAS WHITE was written  
by the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH  
HIGGS of S. STOKES OXON.

THOMAS HIGGES =  
of CHELTENHAM  
Lessee of the CHELTEN-  
HAM RECTORY  
JUROR UXOR  
Vide: HIGGS of CHELTEN-  
HAM Co. GLOUCESTER  
Part II.

ELIZABETH dau. of  
EDWARD STEPHENS  
of EASTINGTON, Co.  
GLOUCESTER.  
m. in 1568  
She married secondly  
H. BAGOT (BAGHOT or  
BADGER)

WILLIAM HIGGES =  
Esquire & Lord of the  
Manors of COLESBOURNE  
& of CHEDWORTH, in the  
County of GLOUCESTER  
he also had a residence  
at STEPNEY, in the  
Co. of MIDDLESEX.  
bapt. at CHELTENHAM  
MAY 1575  
he was a Member of the  
MERCERS COMPANY & by  
his Will (pr. 1614 PCC.  
"Lowe" f 90) left to that  
Company "A nest of Gilt Beds value £20

JUDITH  
dau. of  
ANTHONY  
CALTHORPE  
of LONDON.  
She died  
in 1646,  
and was  
bur. at  
BROMLEY  
Co. KENT.

ANNE = THOMAS  
HIGGS = PLEYDALL  
of  
SHRIVENHAM  
Co. BERKS.  
From which  
marriage  
is  
descended  
the present  
EARL of  
RADNOR

JOHN BUCKERIDGE =  
of BASILDON  
Will proved  
1590

ANNIS = WILLIAM  
BARD BUCKERIDGE  
mar. at  
RANGBOURNE  
BASILDON  
She died  
1598

THOMAS =  
KIBBLE-  
WHITE  
of  
BASILDON

NICHOLAS = JANE  
HIGGES =  
of  
BASILDON  
Will proved  
1583  
Arch. Berks.  
Reg. G f 377.  
JOHN  
BUCKERIDGE  
the Elder.  
was Esq.  
Vide: HIGGS of  
BASILDON, BERKS  
PART II

THOMAS HIGGS =  
Gentleman  
Under Bailiff  
of CHELTENHAM.

JOAN  
married  
at  
CHELTENHAM  
22 OCT.  
1604

THOMAS  
ATKINS  
by whom  
She had two sons  
HENRY & THOMAS  
Note: SARA dau. of  
NICHOLAS HIGGS  
& MARY BARTON  
his wife of S. STOKES  
OXON. married a HENRY  
ATKINS about 1590.

THOMAS HIGGS =  
of COLESBOURNE  
Esquire.  
To whom the Armorial  
Bearings were confirmed.  
in 1623

Note: The Manor of  
COLESBOURNE (with its sub  
Manors of WITHINGTON &  
ELKSTON) belonged to WORCESTER  
CATHEDRAL at the time of the DOMESDAY  
SURVEY, and was afterwards transferred  
to LLANTHONY who held it till the  
Dissolution. THOMAS ATTE WATER was then  
probably a tenant. JOAN the widow  
of THOMAS ATTE WATER appointed  
JOHN SCOT & WILLIAM BUBBEWYTH of  
GORING, OXON. & THOMAS CLET of COLESBOURNE  
her Attorneys to deliver seisin of these lands, later purchased by WILLIAM HIGGS Esq.  
Vide: THE GORING CHARTERS & RUDDER'S HISTORY of GLOUCESTERSHIRE f 383

KATHERINE =  
PLEYDALL  
Married at BASILDON  
24 JUNE 1588

JOHN  
BUCKERIDGE

ALICE  
married  
RICHARD  
WHISTLER  
Note: BARTON  
HIGGS of S. STOKES  
married ELEANOR  
WHISTLER

WILLIAM  
BUCKERIDGE =  
of DRAYTON  
CERNE Co. WILTS.



THE REV. JOHN  
BUCKERIDGE D.D.  
BISHOP of ELY

ELIZABETH  
KIBBLEWHITE

JOHN HIGGS = MARY  
alias  
JENKIN  
HIGGS  
of  
BASILDON  
Will pr.  
1598  
JOHN HIGGS of  
BASILDON who died in 1566

THOMAS =  
BUCKERIDGE  
Only child  
Gt-Grandson of  
THOMAS HIGGS  
of CHELTENHAM.  
bapt. 4 MAY 1589 at BASILDON.

KATHERINE  
HIGGS  
Grand-daughter of  
NICHOLAS HIGGS  
of BASILDON

JOANE = THOMAS  
married  
at  
BASILDON  
24 APR.  
1592.  
of  
BASILDON





ANDREW RIVET, he was at length recalled to England by the same KING CHARLES at the instigation of the ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY. There he was promoted to the Rectory of the Church of Clive in Kent, to the Precentorship of St. David's, and to the Deanery of Lichfield, being also Chaplain in Ordinary to the King. The Lichfield Cathedral he greatly beautified at much personal charge.

"Later on when the civil war had broken out and waxed great all over England, and those who had espoused the King's cause, to which he had remained staunch with unconquerable Devotion, had been vanquished he was stripped of all his Ecclesiastical preferments and mulcted in fines for his loyalty.

"Thereupon when full alike of honors and of years he withdrew from the world, slighted for conscience sake, to Stoke Abbas, (since that was his native place) that there he might devote his whole time to God and study.

"At last, when he had bequeathed what remained of his worldly goods in part to his brothers and sisters, and in part for the perpetual benefit of the poor of Stoke, and the Students of Merton and St. John's Colleges, Oxford, he after being a celibate for 70 years, yielded up his bodily remains to his Mother Jessie (Mother of Jesus) and his soul most devoutly to his God and Father in Christ.

"He died December 16th 1659  
Who gave to the Church £100 to buy land for ye  
Poore, and £600 to buy land for ye maintenance  
of a free school for ever."

Dr. GRIFFIN (or GRIFFITH) HIGGS was a kinsman of the BUCKERIDGES of Basildon and Pangbourne, in the county of Berks, as is clearly shown by the wills of members of that family. JOHN BUCKERIDGE of *Basildon married KATHERINE, daughter of THOMAS PLEYDALL (or PLEYDELL) of Coleshill and Shrivenham in the same County, Gentleman, by ANNE, his wife, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS, of Cheltenham, in the County of Gloucester* (Foreman of the Jury of Tenant for that place, 3 Elizabeth, 1561, on 24 June, 1588. There was a NICHOLAS HIGGS of Basildon (possibly a son of NICHOLAS and MARY HIGGS of South Stoke) whose will was proved in 1583 and whose executor was JOHN BUCKERIDGE, the elder, of that place, and JOHN HIGGS (*alias* JENKIN HIGGS) the youngest son of the aforesaid NICHOLAS HIGGS of Basildon was an overseer of the will of JOHN BUCKERIDGE. Unquestionably the HIGGS family of Basildon, Co. Berks, of South Stoke, Oxon, and of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester, were very closely related, and the Basildon branch of the family had been settled in that place, which is just over the Downs from South Stoke, below Streatley on the Berkshire side of the Thames, from an early date. One "RIC." or "NIC." HIGGES was a witness to the will of JOHN BUCKERIDGE, the great-grandfather of the JOHN who married KATHERINE PLEYDELL, in 1525 (*vide* 'Arch. Berks. Reg. A', fo. 312). The Rev. JOHN BUCKERIDGE, a member of this family, was Bishop of Ely and a Chaplain of KING JAMES I. The BUCKERIDGES were also related to the WILDERS of Nunhide, who intermarried more than once with the HIGGS family. As already related, Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS wrote the life of Sir THOMAS WHITE, the founder of St. John the Baptist College, Oxford. WHITE's mother was MARY KIBBLEWHITE, a daughter of JOHN KIBBLEWHITE of South Fawley, Co. Berks, whose great-granddaughter ELIZABETH KIBBLEWHITE became the mother of the Rev. JOHN BUCKERIDGE, D.D.

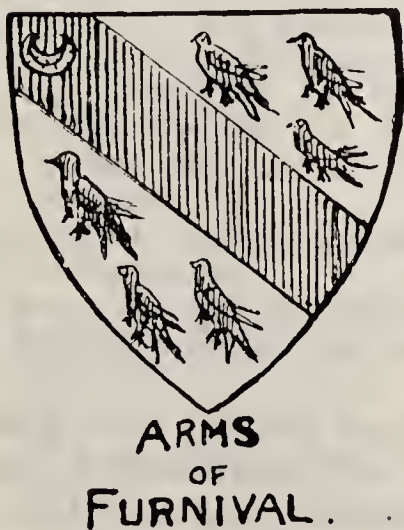




THE DESCENT OF BARTON HIGGS OF SOUTH STOKE; THE REV. DR. GRIFFITH HIGGS OF SOUTH STOKE; RICHARD HIGGS OF SOUTH STOKE AND NICHOLAS HIGGS OF HENWICK, BY COLD ASH, IN THE PARISH OF THATCHAM, CO. BERKS., FROM THE ANCIENT FAMILY OF BASKERVILLE.

The BASKERVILLES, whose name is upon the Roll of Battle Abbey, settled in the county of Hereford soon after the Conquest, and became seated at Erdisley; they intermarried with the leading families of Herefordshire, served the office of Sheriff no less than twenty-one times, and were elected Knights of the Shire in eleven Parliaments.

Their pedigree has been authentically deduced and is duly registered in the College of Arms, London.



From Sir ROBERT BASKERVILLE, Knt., of Erdisley Castle, Co. Hereford, who married AGNES, daughter and heiress of NESTA, the daughter of REES AP GRIFFITH, Prince of South Wales, descended—through a line of knightly representatives—Sir JOHN BASKERVILLE, Knt., of Combe, who was born 12 February, 1403, and who, in Sir Harris Nicholas's 'History of the Battle of Agincourt', is stated to have been in the retinue of KING HENRY V. He married ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN TOUCHET, Lord Audley, and, dying 23 December, 1455, was succeeded by his eldest son, Sir JAMES BASKERVILLE, Knt., of Erdisley, M.P. for the county of Hereford in 1476, and Sheriff for the county in three reigns, namely, 38 King Henry VI, 4 Edward IV, and 14 Henry VII. He was made a Knight-Banneret on the field after the Battle of Stoke, near Newark, 1487, and a Knight of the Bath at the Coronation of KING HENRY VII. He married KATHERINE (some accounts give SYBIL), daughter of WALTER DEVEREUX, Lord Ferrers of Chartley, lineally descended from KING EDWARD I.

Sir JOHN BASKERVILLE, Knt., of Combe (born 1403), had a younger brother, RALFE BASKERVILLE, born in 1410, the second son of Sir JOHN BASKERVILLE (living 4 Henry IV), and it was from this RALFE BASKERVILLE that the four HIGGS brothers were descended. Who the mother of Sir JOHN BASKERVILLE, Knt., of Combe, and his brother RALFE was seems to be doubtful. Their father, Sir JOHN, married twice, first to the daughter of one SYMON A BRUGES (Harl. MS. 615 ff 23b, 24), and therein given as their mother, and secondly to ELIZABETH, daughter and heiress to Sir JOHN EYNSFORDE (Eynford), Knt., by a daughter and one of the heirs of GERARD FURNYVALL (Furnival), who was the second brother to the LORD FURNYVALL (Harl. MS. 615 ff 14b, 15). This latter reference—in relation to the family of HACKLUTE of Eaton in Leominster (R. 175)—shows SIR JOHN, and his brother RALFE, BASKERVILLE as sons of this *second* marriage. ELIZABETH EYNFORD first married PIERS MYLBORNE of Tillington in Burghill, and when his widow she married SIR JOHN BASKERVILLE, who was then a widower, and the probability is that SIR JOHN and RALFE BASKERVILLE the sons were by the *first* marriage, and that the record of the BASKERVILLE family (Harl. MS. 615 ff 23b and 24) is correct.

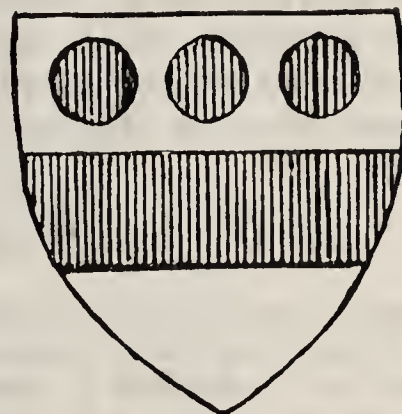




RALFE BASKERVILLE (born 1410) married ANNE, the daughter and heiress of Sir JOHN BLAKETT of Icomb Place, Co. Gloucester (Sir JOHN BLAKETT died in 1431), and by her had a daughter, JANE, who became his sole heiress. This JANE BASKERVILLE became the wife of SYMOND MYLBORNE, Esqre., of Tillington in Burghill, and of Icomb Place in the county of Gloucester in right of his wife (Harl. MS. 1545). He was son of JOHN MYLBORNE, Esqre., by ELIZABETH the daughter and heiress of WALTER DEVEREUX, who was slain at Pillelts in Wales and whose arms were—  
"Argent a fess gules in chief three torteauz".

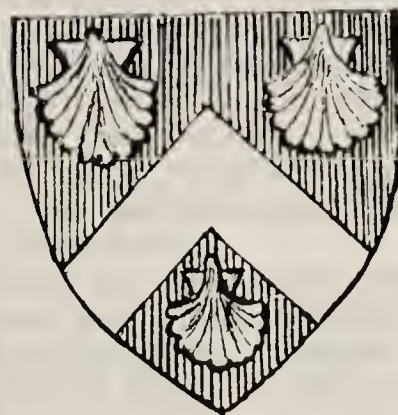
JOHN MYLBORNE was son of PIERS MYLBORNE of Tillington in Burghill, who married ELIZABETH, the daughter of Sir JOHN EYNFORD, and his step-father was, therefore, Sir JOHN BASKERVILLE, Knt.

SYMOND MYLBORNE, by JANE BASKERVILLE his wife, left no male issue, but had no less than thirteen daughters co-heirs of their father, who was thirteenth in descent from HENRY II (*vide* Pedigree).



DEVEREUX.

- (1) ELIZABETH, who married first Sir THOMAS MONINGTON, M.P. for Herefordshire 1461-2, and secondly JOHN WHITTINGTON of Pauntley, Co. Gloucester.
- (2) SYBIL, who became the wife of RICHARD HACKLUTE, Esqre., of Eaton in Leominster, Co. Hereford.
- (3) ANNE, who married WILLIAM RUDHALL, Sergeant-at-Law of Rudhall, Co. Hereford.
- (4) JOYCE, who married THOMAS HYATT, Esqre., of Lydney.
- (5) CATHERINE (of whom later)—the ancestress of the HIGGS Family.
- (6) FLEANCE (or BLANCHE). See 'Harl. Soc.', xxi, 267. She married first JAMES WHITNEY, Esqre., of Whitney, Co. Hereford, and secondly Sir WILLIAM HERBERT of Troy.
- (7) ELINOR. She married JOHN MOORE of Bromsgrove, Esqre. (of Douklyn, Co. Worcester; 'Harl.' 1545).
- (8) ALICE, who married first HENRY MYLES, Esqre.
- (9) MARGARET, who married THOMAS BARON of Burford, Co. Oxford (RICHARD BARON was Bishop of Burford, Co. Oxon., 'Ob. S.P. Harl.' 1545).
- (10) AGNES, who married THOMAS WALWYN of Helyns, Esqre., and also of Longford, in the county of Hereford.
- (11) JANE, who became the wife of Sir RICHARD CORNWELL of Berington.
- (12) JANE, who died unmarried.
- (13) JULIANA, who also died unmarried.



MYLBORNE.

Returning to CATHERINE, the fifth daughter of Sir SYMOND MYLBORNE as given in the pedigree of Monington ('Harl. MS.', 615 ff. 73b, 74), she married THOMAS A BARTON of Barton in Weobley, Co. Hereford, Esqre. ('Harl. MS.', 1545, ff. 35b, 39b), by whom she had at least three sons and two daughters:

1. HARRYE BARTON who settled at Streatley, Co. Berks. (of whom later).
2. WALTER BARTON who settled at Reading, Co. Berks. He married ALICE . . . who died in 1545 and was buried with her husband in St. Lawrence Church where there is a fine brass to his memory (*vide* Chapter I).
3. GRIFFITH BARTON.
- (1) MARGARET, who became the wife of ROBERT BERYTON, Gentleman, of Hereford Este, Co. Hereford, and who bore arms "Sable three greyhounds statant, argent, collared Or", and was ninth in descent from WILLIAM BERYTON of Shropshire and ANNE the sister to JOHN BALDEWIN, his wife (*vide* 'Harl. MS.', 1615 ff. 71b, 73, and "The Visitation of Herefordshire").





- (2) PERYN, who married WALTER BLOUNT of the House of Gryndon, Co. Hereford, who bore arms "Barry nebule of six, Or and Sable" quartering Bridges, a Bruges or Bridge. "On a cross sable a leopard's head argent in the first quarter a trefoil slipped".

Streatley, Berks, THOMAS CLARK,  
1600.



HARRYE BARTON of Streatley married ALIS (ALICE), daughter of one MARTIN or MARTEN of Evelton (she married secondly FRANCIS WELLSBOURNE, Gentleman), and by her had a son GRIFFIN or GRIFFITH BARTON of Barre Place, South Stoke, Oxon; Streatley Hurley and East Hampstead, Co. Berks, and Weobley, Co. Hereford. He died about 1579 and left no male issue but six daughters co-heirs:

- (1) FRANCES, who became the wife of HENRY PASLOWE.
- (2) ELIZABETH, who married THOMAS CLARKE, Gentleman of Streatley (with little doubt a brother of JOHN CLARKE of Ardington, Co. Berks). She died 1598, leaving a son GRIFFIN and three daughters.
- (3) ALES, who married one of the KIRTON Family.
- (4) ANNE, who became the wife of JOHN DANCATELL (or DANCATTLE) of Wellhouse, in the parish of Shaw, Co. Berks, and by him left issue a son GRIFFIN and a son JOHN. This JOHN DANCATTLE, or DONCASTELL, who married ANNE BARTON, had the following arms confirmed to him in February, 1589 (29 Elizabeth): "Azure, a ball of wildfire, Gold". Crest: "Upon a wreath of his colours Gold & Blue a stag's head couped, silver, wounded gules, the horns Gold, mantled Gules, doubled argent".
- (5) MARY, who married NICHOLAS HIGGS, who settled at South Stoke, Oxon, from Weobley, Co. Hereford. They were married at St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke, 20 October, 1558, and had a large family of sons and daughters (of whom later).
- (6) MARGARET, who became the wife of WILLIAM PALMER, and had at least one son, BARTON PALMER of South Stoke, whose daughter ANNA married EDWARD WOLLASCOT, Esqre., of Shinfield and Lord of the Manor of South Stoke.



DANCATELL.

NICHOLAS and MARY HIGGS were the parents of GRIFFITH HIGGS, to whom his maternal grandfather GRIFFITH BARTON left Barre Place, South Stoke. He married Sarah, daughter of ROBERT PAYN of Caversham, Co. Oxford, and they became the parents of the four sons (besides other children given in Chapter II), BARTON, GRIFFITH and RICHARD HIGGS of South Stoke, and NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick, by Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks. Thus their descent is shown from the ancient and illustrious family of BASKERVILLE as well as the families of BARTON, BLAKETT, DEVEREUX, EYNFORD (Eynsford or Eylesford) and FURNIVAL.\*

\* The first record of the noble house of FURNIVAL is that relating to GIRARD or GERARD DE FURNIVAL's association with Richard I in Palestine. The Manor of Farnham was held by the FURNIVALS by the tenure of finding a glove for the King's right hand on the Coronation Day, and supporting the king's left arm so long as he held the Royal Sceptre.











PEDIGREE of HIGGS of SOUTH STOKE, & CHECKENDON, OXON & of READING, Co. BERKS

[illegible]





ADELIZ <sup>dau.</sup> of MD of FLANDERS  
Sister to WILLIAM 53. d. 1083.

MALCOMB III  
KING of SCOTLAND

MARGARET <sup>dau.</sup> of EDMUND IRONSIDE  
& St. gt. gt. gt. grand -  
dau. of ALFRED THE  
GREAT. She d. 1093

JUDITH of L  
She died 105 LDA

SIMON DE ST. LNT of ANJOU  
SECOND EARL of NORTH  
died 1111.

MAUD DE SENL  
or ST. LIZ.

She died in 114

NORMANDY, EARL of AQUITAINE - ELEANOR of AQUITAINE

1170

The Princess ELEANOR  
of ENGLAND  
Sister of King JOHN

ALFONSO VIII  
KING of CASTILLE  
1155 - 1214

RICHARD DE CLARE  
SURNAMED "STRONGBOW"  
EARL of PEMBROKE, KING of LEINSTER

EVA <sup>dau. of</sup> DERMOT  
KING of LEINSTER

PRINCESS BERENGUELA  
born: 1171. d. 1244  
2nd Wife of ALFONSO IX

ALFONSO IX  
KING of LEON 1197  
(2nd hus) 1171-1230

WALTER  
FITZ-ROBEFE of  
of WOODHAM WALT  
Co. ESSEX. d. 1110

MAUI  
FITZ-ROBELES  
born: 1157.

WILLIAM MARSHAL  
EARL of PEMBROKE  
LORD PROTECTOR of ENGLAND  
during the Minority of HENRY III

WILLIAM DE  
BRAOSE or  
BRIOUZE LORD  
of BRECON & ABERGAVENNY  
hanged 1230

EVE MARSHAL  
youngest  
dau. & co-heire

ISABEL JEAN DE BRIENNE  
DE KING of JERUSALEM,  
CLARE EASTERN EMPEROR  
died 1237

JEAN DE BRIENNE  
"GRAND BUTLER  
of FRANCE"  
died 1296

PRINCESS  
BERENGUELA  
of LEON (3rd Wife)  
born 1171 d. 1244

JEANNE DE  
CHATEAUDUN  
mar. 1251.

AOSE SIR GUILLAUME (II) FIENNES  
of WENDOVER Co. BUCKS.  
(died in 1302)

BLANCHE DE BRIENNE  
Dame de Lonplaud en Maine.

1280

MARGARET DE FIENNES  
living in 1326.

1299.

MAUD DE MORTIMER  
She died 1312

THEOBALD second LORD VERDUN  
he married secondly ELIZABETH DE  
CLARE Grand-dau. of EDWARD I.  
died 1316.

SIR JOHN DE CROPHULL  
of BONNINGTON & SUTTON. Co  
NOTTS. died 1383

MARGRET DE VERDUN  
3rd. dau. & co-heire  
born: 1310 died 1377

THOMAS DE CROPHULL  
of BONNINGTON & SUTTON.  
living 1371.

SIBILLA, dau. of SIR JOHN DE LABERE  
Knight, by AGNES,  
dau. of SIR PAINTURBE-  
VILLE, his wife.

SIR WILLIAM d'EY  
(In some records the  
as EINSFORD & EINF  
Co. HEREFORD.

SIR ..... d'EY  
of Kings PYON

SIR JOHN d'EREUX  
of Kings PYON and HURCH  
Co. HEREFORD - OK PILLETS  
ENGLAND

AGNES DE CROPHULL  
dau. & co-heire  
Ob. 14 Henry VI. 1435/6

ELIZABETH d'EREUX = MAUD dau. of SIR THOMAS BROMWICH,  
Knt.  
dau. & co-heire 35  
Sister MARG  
SIR JOHN BLAKETT  
PLACE Co GLOUC

SIR WALTER DEVEREUX  
Chancellor of IRELAND 1449

H BASKERVILLE (born 1410) by ANN  
re of SIR JOHN BLAKETT of Icomb Place  
ER, by MARGARET d'EYLESFORD, sister  
H, wife of SIR PIERS MILBOURNE, co-heires of SIR JOHN d'EYLESFORD

ELIZABETH SYBLICE = 1. HENRY MARGARET = THOMAS AGNES = THOMAS JANE = SIR RICH JANE JULIANA  
MILES BARON WALWYN D.S.P. CORNWELL D.S.P  
2ndly THOS BASKERVILLE. of BURFORD Esa. ESQUIRE

THE ROYAL  
NOBLE & HISTORICAL  
LINEAGE.

of  
ALL WHO CAN  
PROVE DESCENT

from one of the dau.  
of SIR S. MILBOURNE.  
MARY - the St. Grand dau. of  
THOMAS BARTON and  
CATHERINE MILBOURNE -  
who m. NICHOLAS HIGGS -  
was 17th in descent fr. HENRY III







ADELIZ *dau. of ROBERT DUKE of NORMANDY and Sister to WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR*

LAMBERT  
COUNT of LENS  
died 1054.

WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR = MAUD of FLANDERS  
KING of ENGLAND, DUKE of NORMANDY  
born at FALAISE, FRANCE, died 1087.  
She m. 1053 & 1083.

MALCOMB III  
KING of SCOTLAND

MARGARET *dau. of EDMUND IRONSIDE & St. gt. gt. gt. grand - dau. of ALFRED THE GREAT. She d. 1093*

JUDITH of LENS =  
She died 1054/5.

WALTHEOF (d. 1076)  
EARL of NORTHUMBERLAND,  
1st EARL of HUNTINGDON &  
1st EARL of NORTHAMPTON

HENRY I, KING of ENGLAND  
born 1068 at SELBY, Co. YORK  
died 1135 at ANGERS, NORMANDY  
*buried at READING BERKS*

EADGYTH  
called MATILDA  
She died 1118

SIMON DE ST. LIZ  
SECOND EARL of NORTHAMPTON  
died 1111.

MAUD, *dau. & co-heire of WALTHEOF EARL of NORTHUMBERLAND.*

The Princess MATILDA = GEOFFREY, COUNT of ANJOU  
HENRY II KING of ENGLAND (1133-1189) DUKE of NORMANDY, EARL of AQUITAINE

ELEANOR of AQUITAINE

MAUD DE SENLIS =  
or ST. LIZ.  
She died in 1140

ROBERT FITZ RICHARD  
DE CLARE of DUNMOW, G. ESSEX.  
d. 1134.  
(he was son of RICHARD FITZ-GILBERT LORD de BIENFAITE & ORBEC in NORMANDY, first LORD of CLARE who was born before 1035 & died prior to 1099, "A cousin of WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR" slain at ST. NEOTS)



WALTER  
FITZ ROBERT  
of WOODHAM WALTER  
Co. ESSEX. d. 1198.

MAUD  
FITZ ROBERT  
born 1157.

WILLIAM DE  
LOVETOT.  
LORD of WORKSOP died 1181



RALPH DE MORTIMER  
5th LORD of WIGMORE by tenure  
died 6 AUG. 1246

LLYWELYN  
THE GREAT PRINCE of  
GWYNEDD  
1230 b. 1173. d. 1240

GLADEUSE  
PRINCESS of WALES  
d. 1251

RICHARD DE CLARE,  
SURNAMED "STRONGBOW"  
EARL of PEMBROKE, KING of LEINSTER

EVA *dau. of*  
DERMOT  
KING of LEINSTER

PRINCESS BERENGUELA  
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2nd Wife of ALFONSO IX

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EARL of PEMBROKE  
LORD PROTECTOR of ENGLAND  
during the minority of HENRY III

ISABEL  
JEAN DE BRIENNE  
KING of JERUSALEM,  
EASTERN EMPEROR  
died 1237

PRINCESS  
BERENGUELA  
of LEON (3rd wife)  
born 1171 d. 1244

JEANNE DE  
CHATEAUDUN  
mar. 1251.

WILLIAM DE  
BRAOSE, or  
BRIOUZE, LORD  
of BRECON & ABERGAVENNY  
died 1239

EVE MARSHAL  
youngest  
dau. & co-heire

JEAN DE BRIENNE  
"GRAND BUTLER"  
of FRANCE  
died 1296

JEANNE DE  
CHATEAUDUN  
mar. 1251.

ROGER DE MORTIMER  
6th LORD of WIGMORE by tenure  
died 27 OCT. 1282

MAUD DE BRAOSE  
of BRIOUZE  
She died 1301

SIR GUILLAUME (II) FIENNES  
of WENDOVER, Co. Bucks.  
(died in 1302)

BLANCHE DE BRIENNE  
Dame de Lonplaud en Maine.

BLANCHE DE BRIENNE  
Dame de Lonplaud en Maine.

EDMUND DE MORTIMER  
1st BARON MORTIMER of  
WIGMORE. b. 1261 d. 1304.

MARGARET DE FIENNES  
living in 1326.

1299.

THE  
WHITE  
ROSE



ROGER DE MORTIMER  
FIRST EARL of MARCH  
born 1287 - died 1330  
BADGE Ing. Post Mortem 32 Ed. I.  
No 83 a.



ROGER  
MORTIMER  
and of  
RICHARD 3rd DUKE  
of YORK.

ROGER DE MORTIMER  
FIRST EARL of MARCH  
born 1287 - died 1330

MAUD DE MORTIMER  
She died 1312

THEOBALD second LORD VERDUN  
he married secondly ELIZABETH DE  
CLARE, grand-dau. of EDWARD I.  
died 1316.

MARGARET DE VERDUN  
3rd. dau. & co-heire  
born 1310 died 1377

SIR JOHN DE CROPHULL  
of BONNINGTON & SUTTON, Co.  
NOTTS. died 1383

SIBILLA, *dau. of* SIR JOHN DE LA BERE  
Knight by AGNES,  
dau. of SIR PAINTURBE-  
VILLE, his wife.

SIBILLA, *dau. of* SIR JOHN DE LA BERE  
Knight by AGNES,  
dau. of SIR PAINTURBE-  
VILLE, his wife.

SIR WALTER DEVEREUX  
Knt. of BODENHAM & WHITCHURCH  
Co. HEREFORD, succeeded his  
father in 1376. slain at BATTLE  
in WALES in combat with OWEN GLENDOVR

AGNES DE CROPHULL  
dau. & co-heire  
Ob. 14 Henry VI. 1435/6

SIR WALTER DEVEREUX  
born 1387  
Ob. 1420 or 1435

MAUD *dau. of* SIR THOMAS BROMWICH,  
Knt.

1434

ELIZABETH DEVEREUX  
She died 1475

ELIZABETH DEVEREUX  
She died 1475

SIR WALTER DEVEREUX  
Chancellor of IRELAND 1449

1434

JANE *dau. of* RALPH BASKERVILLE (born 1410) by ANN  
dau. & co-heire of SIR JOHN BLAKETT of Icomb Place  
Co. GLOUCESTER, by MARGARET d'EYLESFORD, sister  
to ELIZABETH, wife of SIR PIER MILBOURNE, co-heires of SIR JOHN d'EYLESFORD

SIR WILLIAM d'EYLESFORD  
(In some records the name is given  
as EINSFORD & EINFORD) of MUNSLEY  
Co. HEREFORD.

SIR ..... d'EYLESFORD  
of Kings Pyon Co. HEREFORD

SIR JOHN d'EYLESFORD  
of Kings Pyon and Tillington  
Co. HEREFORD. Ob. 1390

ELIZABETH d'EYLESFORD  
*dau. & co-heire with her  
sister MARGARET wife of  
SIR JOHN BLAKETT of Icomb  
Place Co GLOUCESTER.*

ISABEL DE LA BARRE  
She died 1422



SIR PIER MILBOURNE of Tillington  
in Burghill, Co. HEREFORD.

SIR JOHN MILBOURNE of Tillington  
in Burghill Co. HEREFORD, of Holme Co. LINCOLN &  
of Westbury Co. GLOUCESTER. Ob. 1435

SIR SIMON MILBOURNE of Tillington  
born 1435 - Ob. 1522. Only son & heir

VIDE:  
PEDIGREE of BARTON

JANE *dau. of* RALPH BASKERVILLE (born 1410) by ANN  
dau. & co-heire of SIR JOHN BLAKETT of Icomb Place  
Co. GLOUCESTER, by MARGARET d'EYLESFORD, sister  
to ELIZABETH, wife of SIR PIER MILBOURNE, co-heires of SIR JOHN d'EYLESFORD

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Co. GLOUCESTER, by MARGARET d'EYLESFORD, sister  
to ELIZABETH, wife of SIR PIER MILBOURNE, co-heires of SIR JOHN d'EYLESFORD

1 ELIZABETH 2 SYBIL = RICHARD HACKLUYT Esq. 3 ANN = WILLIAM RUDHALL Esq. 4 JOYCE = THOMAS HYATT Esq. 5 CATHERINE = THOMAS BLANCHE = ISABEL = JAMES ELINOR = JOHN VALICE = ISABEL = HENRY = MARGARET = THOMAS = AGNES = THOMAS = JANE = SIR RICH = JANE = JULIANA  
From Whom descended REV. DR. GRIFFITH HIGGS 2ndly SIR HERBERT of Troy = 2ndly THOS. BASKERVILLE. of BURFORD Esq. WALWYN Esq. CORNWELL D.S.P.

THE ROYAL  
NOBLE & HISTORICAL  
LINEAGE.  
of  
ALL WHO CAN  
PROVE DESCENT  
from one of the dau.  
of SIR S. MILBOURNE.  
MARY the 9th grand dau. of  
THOMAS BARTON and  
CATHERINE MILBOURNE  
who m. NICHOLAS HIGGS  
was 17th in descent of HENRY II





## CHAPTER IV

## The Thatcham Branch

WE now come to the subsequent account of the youngest child of GRIFFITH and SARA HIGGS of Barre Place, South Stoke (and his descendants), namely NICHOLAS, who, as we have already learned, was baptized in the old parish church of St. Andrew's, South Stoke, Oxon, on 5 October, 1600, and who was but eight years of age when he became an orphan.

Of his boyhood we know little. In all probability he attended the Grammar School at Reading, where his brother Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS had gone, and in his early days was cared for by his eldest sister MARY, who became the wife of WALTER JEMOTT, or JEMMETT, of Shiplake, a descendant of the GEMOTE family of Crowsley Farm (temp. Edward VI), and with little doubt was in occupation of that property when MARY HIGGS became his wife. Crowseley,\* Crowsley or Cowseley Farm was in the tenure of a WALTER GERMOTTE, or GEMOTTE, in 1547, and these GEMOTTES—who eventually spell their name as JEMOTT, JEMMATT, JEMMETT, etc.—became quite wealthy people, and large landowners in the parish of Shiplake. In the early part of the sixteenth century they were, like the HIGGS Family of South Stoke, Oxon, of the well-to-do yeoman class, who held land on tenure from the Lord of the Manor. Many of them were the younger sons of noble houses, and these men who spent their days tilling the soil they leased (and in some cases owned by purchase), raising stock and tending their herds, became the very backbone of the country. A number of them were able to give their sons a University education, and became the parents of many of the most prominent men in both Church and State. A most interesting description of an English yeoman is given by BISHOP LATIMER in a sermon preached before KING EDWARD VI on March 8, 1549.† He said :



“ My father was a yeoman, and had no land of his own ; only he had a farm of three or four pound by the year at the uttermost ; and hereupon he tilled so much as kept half a dozen men. He had walk for 100 sheep, and my mother milked 30 kine. He was able and did find the King a harness with himself, and his horse, while he came to the place that he should receive the King's wages. I can remember that I buckled his harness when he went unto Black Heath field. He kept me to school, or else I had not been able to have preached before the King's Majesty now. He married my sisters with £5, or twenty nobles apiece, so that he brought them up in godliness and the fear of God. He kept hospitality for his poor neighbours, and some alms he gave to the poor ; this he did of the same farm where he that now hath it payeth £16 a year or more, and is not able to do anything for his Prince, for himself, or his children, or give a cup of drink to the poor.”

It was this son of a Leicestershire yeoman, who—with BISHOPS CRANMER and RIDLEY—bravely suffered martyrdom at the stake in Oxford in 1555, during the cruel reign of

\* *Vide* ‘History of Shiplake’, fo. 211, by EMILY J. CLIMENSON, 1894.

† ‘History of Shiplake’, fo. 197.





religious persecution of QUEEN MARY! Unfortunately the Shiplake Parish Registers contain no entries prior to 1677, a number of the earlier pages having been torn out during the Civil War, so that they are of no assistance to us in giving the date of NICHOLAS HIGGS's marriage to ANNIS, or ANN, CHRISTMAS,\* sister of WALTER CHRISTMAS, "malster" or brewer in this locality, or the baptismal entries of any of their children who may have been born in this district before they settled in Thatcham, Berkshire. It will be remembered that it was to MARY, the wife of WALTER JEMOTT, that Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS left the "gold ring with a faire diamond in it in form of a heart" which had been given to him by HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN OF BOHEMIA. Another ring† "with a lesser diamond" he left to ANN, the wife of his yeoman brother NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick, in the parish of Thatcham, together with "Two small silver salts", and it was their son NICHOLAS who became one of the executors to Dr. HIGGS's will.



LITTLE SCHOOL  
GIRL of 1667.

Wherever NICHOLAS and ANN HIGGS had their first home, and their first seven children were born, it was in 1640 that they made their home at Henwick in Thatcham, Co. Berks, for on 17 June in that year NICHOLAS HIGGS‡ purchased a lease of a small estate in that place and a tenement called "Knights" from WILLIAM EASTON of Catmere in the county of Berks, Esqre., THOMAS NELSON of Chaddleworth, in Berkshire, Esqre., and JOHN WINCHCOMB of Henwick by Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, which he farmed for seventeen years until his decease in 1657, when he was buried in Thatcham Churchyard on 5 June.§ His wife ANN survived him barely three years, when she too was buried in the churchyard on 16 March, 1660,|| and NICHOLAS, their second son, carried on the farm.

Apparently only two of the children of NICHOLAS and ANNIS HIGGS were baptized at Thatcham Parish Church during their residence at Henwick, namely their daughters MARY and MARGARET.¶ MARY was baptized at Thatcham Church in 1653 and died, aged twelve, during the year of the Great Plague (1665), and she was buried on 20 September. MARGARET was baptized on 5 April, 1656, one year before her father's decease. She died when she was but seventeen years of age, and was buried at Thatcham 18 June, 1673. By her will,\*\* proved by her sister JOANE in September, 1673, she left her gold ring to "HANNAH, daughter of my brother NICHOLAS". This was in all probability the gold ring "with the lesser diamond" which had been left to her mother by her uncle GRIFFITH.

The other seven children of NICHOLAS and ANNIS HIGGS were :

- (1) GRIFFITH, who married, and apparently lived at South Stoke, Oxon, for when he died there in 1664 a commission was granted to his wife SARAH, under date of November 12 of that year, to administer the estate of her husband "Late of South Stoke" (she married secondly WILLIAM MIDDLETON, yeoman of Sladend in Brightwell, Co. Berks). What family GRIFFITH and SARAH HIGGS had is not known, but it is certain that they had one son GRIFFITH, to whom a like commission was granted 17 November, 1691, to administer the estate of his uncle WALTER HIGGS of Thatcham who had died there in 1669, and whose estate had been left unadministered by the administratrix, SARAH SMITH, *alias* FOSTER, *alias* HIGGS, sister of WALTER, and aunt to this GRIFFITH HIGGS.

In all probability this son—GRIFFITH—of GRIFFITH and SARAH HIGGS was the same GRIFFITH or GRIFFIN HIGGS mentioned in the Will of JOHN POTTINGER of

\* Will of NICHOLAS HIGGS, proved 25 November, 1662 (original Berks Will, Bond A).

† Will of Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, P.C.C. 1659, "Nabb's", fo. 8.

‡ Will of NICHOLAS HIGGS (unfiled original Berks Will, Bond A, proved 25 November, 1662).

§ Thatcham Parish Registers.

|| *Loc. cit.*

¶ *Loc. cit.*

\*\* P.C.C. 1673, "Pye", fo. 114.





West Compton, Co. Berks ('Arch. Berks' dated 13 May, 1678, and proved at Oxford 5 September, 1678, by RICHARD ILSLEY\* and GRIFFIN HIGGS, sons-in-law. GRIFFIN HIGGS married JOHN POTTINGER's daughter MARY, and a legacy of £10 was left to him and 20s. to "Their child then unborn"†). JOHN POTTINGER (senior) was buried at Compton 3 June, 1678; JOHN POTTINGER the younger of Wallingford Road was buried at Compton 23 November, 1677.)

- (2) NICHOLAS HIGGS (the younger, of Henwick, of whom later).
- (3) WALTER HIGGS, who died at Thatcham in 1669, and was buried there 2 October.
- (4) THOMAS HIGGS, who died also in that year and was buried at Thatcham 26 March, 1669.
- (5) ANNE, who apparently went to live at Shiplake, Oxon, and died there in 1665 a spinster. By her Will proved 21 August, 1666, in the Arch. Court at Oxford, for £82, she left her brother WALTER HIGGS of Thatcham £6 and her sister SARAH a like sum "If procured from Mr. PATEN of Milten, Co. Berks", being interest owing to her. She also mentions in her Will ANN CORDDARY (CORDERAY or CORDEROY) and her "cousins" MARY LUCY, JONE PIGGOTT, and WILLIAM ADKIN's wife (see Part II, HIGGS Family of Gloucestershire).
- (6) SARAH "*alias* FOSTER, *alias* SMITH". She was the wife of one RICHARD SMITH. By RICHARD SMITH *alias* FOSTER she had four children named in the Will of her sister MARGARET ('P.C.C. Pye', fo. 114, 1673). WALTER HIGGS left her as administratrix of his estate when he died in 1669. This administration she never carried out, as has been previously noted, for some reason or other, this being done twenty-two years later by her nephew GRIFFITH HIGGS.
- (7) JOAN.

How it was that NICHOLAS HIGGS settled at Henwick we do not know, unless it was through his father's cousin GRIFFIN DANCASTLE of the Grange, in the adjoining parish of Shaw. The DANCASTLES, DONCASTLES, DANCASTELLS, etc., as the name is variously spelt, had interests in Thatcham at an early date. Thatcham is an ancient Saxon village, or settlement, not many miles from Newbury, and as originally constituted—and down to the year 1859—comprised not only the parish now known by the name, but also those of Midgham and Greenham, which were formerly chapelries in the parish, as well as the newly-formed ecclesiastical district of Cold Ash, by Henwick, all forming *one large area* situated on both sides of the Kennet valley. Its original boundaries were as follows: On the east the parish of Woolhampton; on the north that of Bucklebury; on the north-west the Chieveley parish; on the west the parishes of Shaw and Newbury; and on the south the river Enborne. The name in the Domesday Survey 1086 we find spelt as *Taceham*, and it was probably so named after a tenant of the name of *Thaec*, *Tac*, or *Tace*, the termination "*ham*" meaning "home". The locality is healthy, well treed and somewhat hilly. Altitudes vary considerably: old Henwick Farm is situated at 300 ft. above sea-level, whilst from there up to Cold Ash Common the ground rises, until at St. Mark's Church, Cold Ash (built in 1865) it is 503 ft. above the level of the sea. Henwick, within the original Manor of Thatcham, was anciently the residence of the abbots, and to this day one of the fields in this locality is known as "The Abbot's Croft". A STEPHEN DANCASTELL was living at Henwick in 1548, and his name appears in the licence‡ to JOHN WINCHCOMBE to settle certain estates upon his third son HENRY WINCHCOMBE in that year; whilst as early as 1409 we find one WILLIELMI DANCASTELL mentioned in an Inquisition Post Mortem in respect to JOHN DE MONTACUTE, THIRD EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, who had died in 1400, and who then held the Manor of Crookham, in the parish of Thatcham. Again we find other members of this ancient Berkshire family living in the parish at an early period: JOHN DANCASTLE was churchwarden in

\* PETER ILSLEY is mentioned by the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS in his will, 1659.

† The POTTINGER family was long seated at Compton, and there are numerous vaults both inside and outside of the church belonging to this family.

‡ (Patent Rolls 2 Edward VI, Part 6, Mems. 27 and 28.) Vide 'Thatcham and its Manors', by SAMUEL BARFIELD, fo. 301.





1578, OLIVER DANCASTELL was living at Greenham in 1588, JOHN and WILLIAM DONCASTLE at Thatcham in 1632, whilst one RICHARD DANCASTELL was churchwarden in 1602. It was FRANCIS DANCASTLE, the second son of GRIFFIN DANCASTLE, who succeeded his father at The Grange, in the parish of Shaw, and—according to the Herald's "Visitation of Berkshire" in 1665-66—he was aged sixty on 23 March, 1664; his sister ELIZABETH, who had married secondly JOHN EYSTON, a major in the Royalist army, lived at Burghulbury or Bucklebury. Now the WINCHCOMBES, DANCASTLES, EYSTONS and WOLLASCOTS all adhered to "the old religion" for many years after the Reformation had been firmly established, and it is interesting to note in the 'Gough MSS. Berks', 24, fol. 1, that a list of Recusants for the county is therein given, and the annual value of the property they held. In this list we find:

	£	s.	d.
JOHN DANCASTLE . . . . .	234	10	0
FRANCIS DANCASTLE . . . . .	1	17	0
CHARLES EYSTON, Esqre. . . . .	567	7	11
ROBERT EYSTON, Gent. . . . .	6	13	4
EDWARD WOLLASCOT . . . . .	80	0	0
THOMAS WOLLASCOT . . . . .	162	10	0
CATHERINE WOLLASCOT . . . . .	322	16	6
WILLIAM WOLLASCOT . . . . .	762	5	8

All these families were more or less related by marriage to each other, and held property in and around Thatcham. It will be remembered how the co-heirs of GRIFFITH BARTON of South Stoke married. One, ANNE, became the wife of JOHN DANCASTLE of Wellhouse, in the parish of Shaw, the grandparents of the above FRANCIS DANCASTLE. Another, MARY, became the wife of NICHOLAS HIGGS of South Stoke, the grandparents of NICHOLAS HIGGS, who settled at Henwick, whilst another, MARGARET, married WILLIAM PALMER, and their grand-daughter ANNA married EDWARD WOLLASCOT of Shinfield, Co. Berks, son of WILLIAM WOLLASCOT of Shinfield, by ANNE, daughter of EDWARD MARTIN of that place. HENRY WINCHCOMBE of Bucklebury or Burghulbury, was born in 1597, and about 1616 married MARY, the daughter of WILLIAM WOLLASCOT of Woolhampton, and their daughter, MARY, married FRANCIS HILDESLEY of Little Stoke (South Stoke), Oxon. WILLIAM WOLLASCOT\* was Lord of the Manor of Woolhampton in 1545, also of Shalford, and owner of lands in Padworth and Midgham. A descendant of his,† another WILLIAM WOLLASCOT, resided in 1623 at Shinfield Manor House, and in 1650 WILLIAM WOLLASCOT was Lord of the Manors of Thatcham and Bucklebury, representing the interest of HENRY WINCHCOMBE‡ then a minor, and in 1660 one MARTIN WOLLASCOT§ was patron of the living of Thatcham.

It will readily be seen, therefore, with all these relationships in and around Thatcham that through one or more of these, NICHOLAS HIGGS came to lease his small estate in Henwick.

FRANCIS WINCHCOMBE died at Bucklebury on 3 January, 1619. From his inquisition taken at Newbury the then value of the manors of Bucklebury, Thatcham and Henwick is stated to be £41, of the borough of Thatcham 20s., and of the rectories of Bucklebury and Thatcham £19.

"The fact that the three manors are specifically mentioned" (says Mr. JAMES PARKER, M.A., F.G.S., who edited and arranged for publication the late Mr. Samuel Bartfield's work, 'Thatcham, Berks, and its Manors', fo. 326), "viz. Bucklebury, Thatcham and Henwick, in addition to that of the Borough of Thatcham, raises a doubt whether or

\* Clarke MSS., 12 MSS., Top. Berks C. 2, Bodleian Library, Oxford.

† Clarke MSS., Top. Berks C. 2.

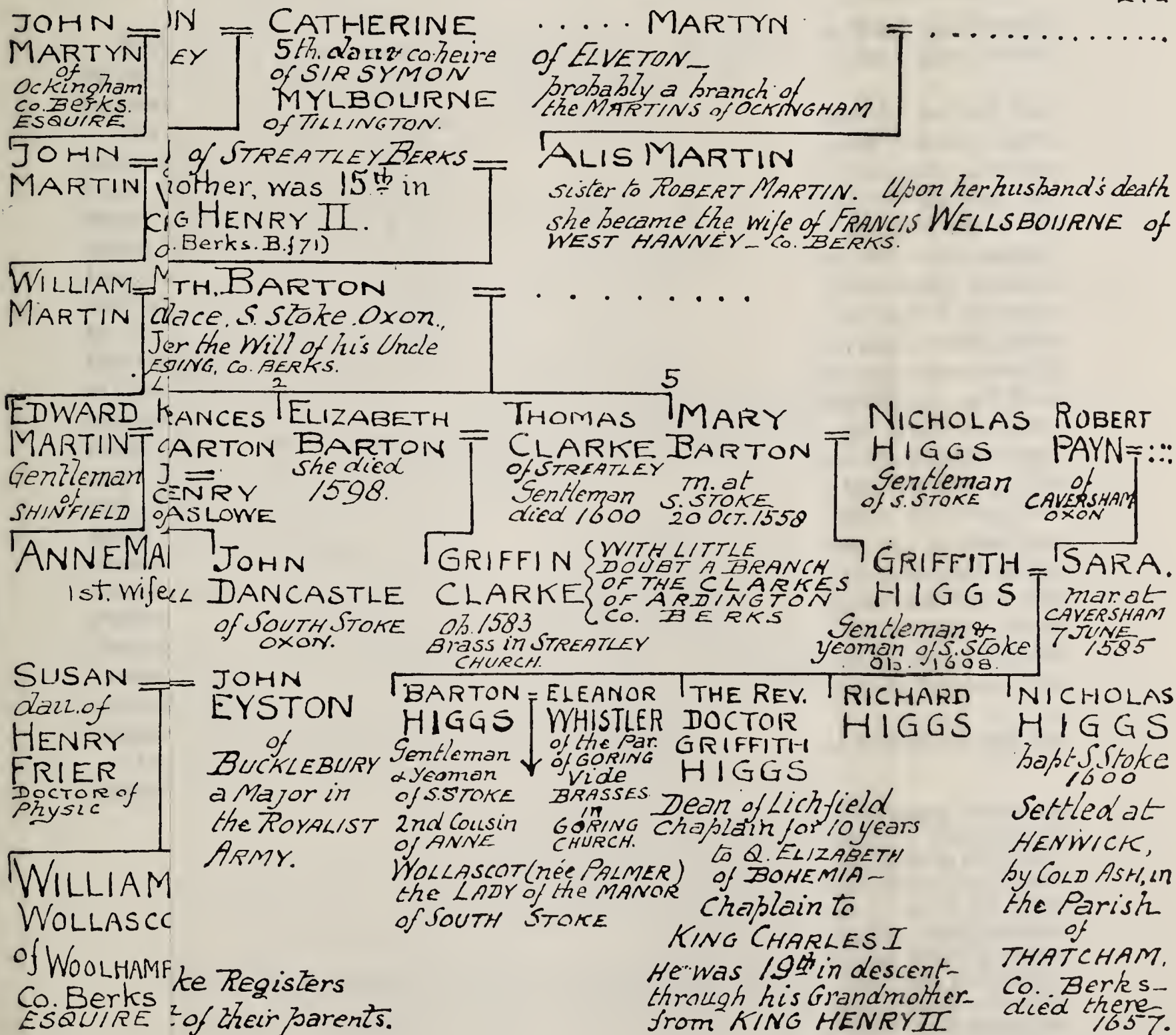
‡ Clarke MSS., Top. Berks 2a and 3, Bodleian Library, Oxford.

§ Bacon's 'Liber Regis'.





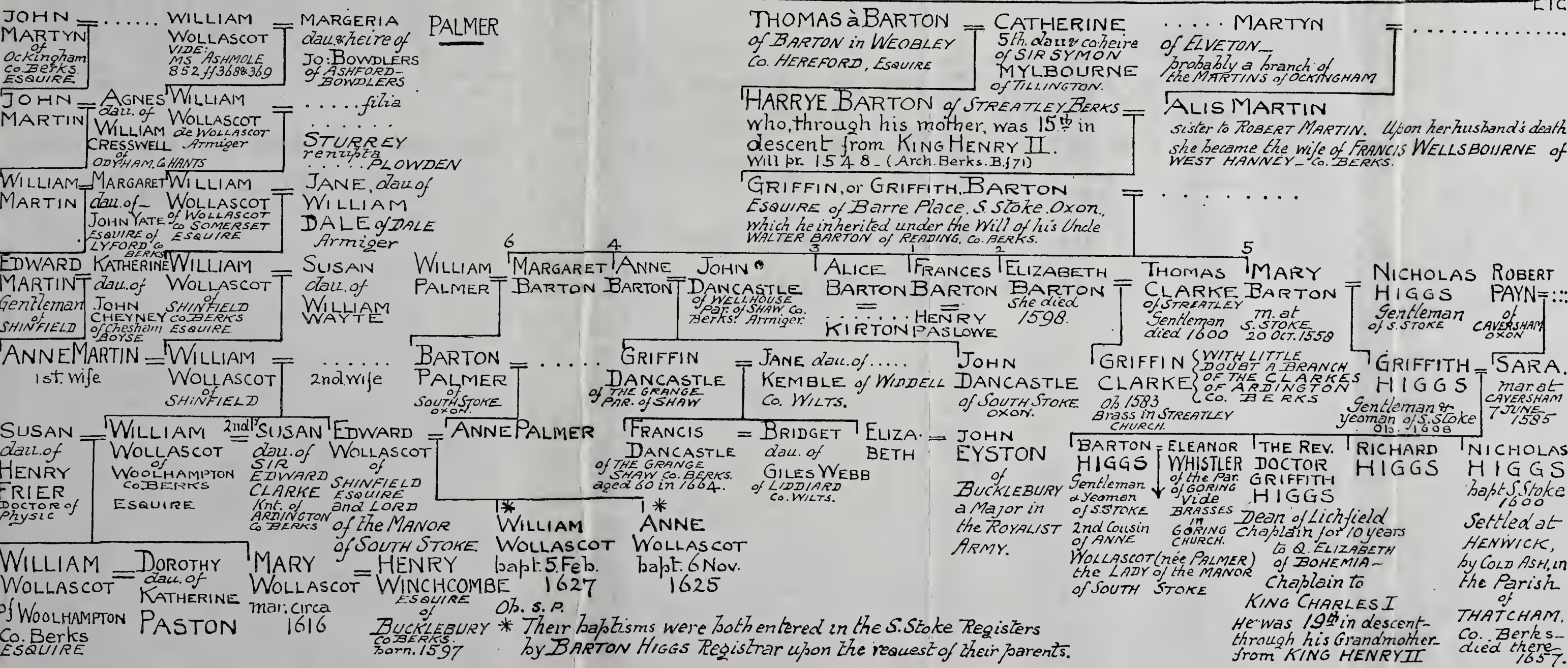
# TABULLASCOT, BARTON, HIGGS, DANCASTLE, WINCHCOMBE, ETC







TABULATION SHOWING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE FAMILIES OF MARTIN, WOLLASCOT, BARTON, HIGGS, DANCASTLE, WINCHCOMBE, ETC







not the Manor of Henwick, given by JOHN WINCHCOMBE, in 1548, to his son HENRY, passed by grant, but there is no evidence that Henwick Manor originally given to HENRY and his heirs, was ever acquired by FRANCIS WINCHCOMBE. As a matter of fact, JOHN WINCHCOMBE, who was the son and heir of HENRY, was then living at Henwick, and his children and grandchildren were afterwards born there, as the Parish Records show (see Thatcham Church Registers); and as will be seen later on, in the account of Henwick Manor, in or about 1671 a certain JOHN WINCHCOMBE (who was the descendant of HENRY WINCHCOMBE) together with MARTHA WINCHCOMBE, sold and conveyed the Henwick estate to PHILIP JEMMET, Alderman of London."

Here again we note another family connection in the sale of the Manor of Henwick by the WINCHCOMBES to one of the old family of JEMMET of Shiplake, Oxfordshire, which had intermarried with the HIGGS Family of South Stoke.

Not long after NICHOLAS HIGGS had purchased his estate in Henwick the Civil War broke forth, and the inhabitants of Thatcham—and the surrounding country—were much affected by the engagements which took place between the Royalists and the forces of the Parliament, by plunder and pillage. The great battle took place in this region on 27 October, 1644. All the ways leading to the side of the field where the King's army was drawn up, between Donnington Castle and Newbury, were well guarded with strong earthworks and cannon. The village of Shaw had been strongly fortified by the Royalists, and was occupied by troops under the command of PRINCE MAURICE (the son of the KING AND QUEEN OF BOHEMIA—whose birth had taken place at the Castle of Custrin, during the flight of his parents from Prague to The Hague, as we have seen in Chapter III). Thatcham itself was occupied by the forces of the Parliament, and their camp was on Clay Hill and the elevated tableland extending towards Ashmore Green and Cold Ash Common lying to the north-east of Newbury—a most advantageous post, and which enabled them to observe the whole position occupied by the Royalists. The battle lasted three hours, one hour of which was fought by moonlight. Its result was undecisive to either side, and both the Royalists and Parliamentarians lost in killed and wounded some three hundred men. THE EARL OF MANCHESTER in command of the Parliamentarians tried to force a passage through the villages of Speen and Shaw, but PRINCE MAURICE's troops held their ground. The KING's army in the fields about Donnington Castle was overcome, and the KING, with his regiment of Guards, retreated to Oxford. The next day the forces of the Parliament took possession of Newbury and endeavoured to take Donnington Castle, but were repulsed.

Amongst the Clarke MSS.\* preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford we find the following description given :

"The enemy advanced to Thatcham, a village 3 miles east of Newbury, before the King was apprized of their approach when it was too late to retreat. The King was quartered in Newbury, the greatest part of the army in and about Shaw on the North-East of the town. In the village of Speen on the West was Prince Maurice's infantry and some cavalry. For two days various skirmishes took place in which the rebels were beaten off. On the 27th of October the grand conflict took place, which however was not decisive, the King's troops having suffered in some parts, the rebels in others. At nightfall the King with his regiment of guards retired into the fields under Donnington Castle, where they held a Council of War, the result of which was a retreat to Oxford, which they accomplished without annoyance. The next day the rebels took possession of Newbury, and, drawing up their army before Donnington Castle, summoned the Governor to surrender. This summons being disregarded they assaulted the castle but were repulsed and never again repeated the attempt."

NICHOLAS HIGGS was the first of the name to settle in the parish of Thatcham. At any rate this would appear so from a close study of the church registers and parish

\* Clarke MSS., Top. Berks D. 4.





documents. A branch of the family of WILDER was settled in Thatcham at an earlier date, and one HARRY WILDER was churchwarden in 1566; he apparently died in 1576-7, as in the Churchwarden's Accounts we find the following entry under "Church Receipts":

*"It. reseuid of goodwife Wilder for a graue in the church . . . . . iijs. iiijd."*  
 (Item: Received of goodwife WILDER for a grave in the church . . . . . 3s. 4d.)

It will be remembered that this was a family which had intermarried with the HIGGS Family of South Stoke, when MAGDALEN, sister of NICHOLAS HIGGS, married NICHOLAS WILDER of the Parish of Goring, a son, or grandson, of JOHN WILDER of Nunhide, in Sulham, Co. Berks, NICHOLAS WILDER's aunt, ELEANOR WILDER, became the wife of one JOHN HIGGS, yeoman, of Sulhampstead Banister, Co. Berks. And there was yet another intermarriage between the families when another JOHN HIGGS married at Thatcham, 5 June, 1563, one ELIZABETH WILDER, in all probability a daughter of the above churchwarden HARRY WILDER. There is, however, no evidence that this JOHN HIGGS ever settled in the parish. NICHOLAS HIGGS died, a comparatively young man, at the age of fifty-seven, predeceasing his illustrious brother Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS by just two and a half years. Apparently all his children died early in life, for GRIFFITH, the eldest son, died at South Stoke seven years later, NICHOLAS nine years after his father's decease, WALTER and THOMAS both but twelve years after. His daughters likewise died a few years after their father, ANNE, the eldest in 1665, surviving him but eight years; SARAH probably survived him twelve years, whilst MARY died at the age of twelve, and MARGARET, the youngest, lived only until she was seventeen years of age. No doubt the Plague had much to do with this, for it did not confine its ravages in any one year to the rural districts of England. Between the years 1602-1605 it carried off hundreds in this locality, both in Thatcham and in Newbury, and from thence on kept breaking out in sundry places. In 1665 it was particularly bad in Thatcham, as it was all over the country, and no less than 100,000 people succumbed to its ravages in that year in London and its vicinity alone. The Plague—the Pest, or, as it has sometimes been called, "The Black Death", from the dark blotches which appeared on the body of the affected person in addition to boils—was of the most virulent character, highly infectious, with a tendency to linger and recur when once it had attacked a community, and only improved sanitation—and laws governing health—have succeeded in stamping out this dreaded disease, which usually proved fatal in five or six days. From a Court Roll of the Manor of Thatcham, dated 14 April, 1658, we find the following injunction made:

"Ordered that ISAAC BATHROP,\* RICHARD HEDD, ALICE BENETT, JOHN MASY and THOMAS FREEMAN doe remove their severall dunghills owt of ye Street of Thacheam before ye first day of May, and that none lay any more ther on pain of five shillings a peece."

This Court Leet and Court Baron of HENRY WINCHCOMB, Esquire, Lord of the said Mannor, holden on the fourteenth day of April 1658 by JOHN HARRISON Esquire, Steward there."

With such a condition existing in the streets of Thatcham at this time it was no wonder that the plague ravaged the district, notwithstanding the efforts made by the Lord of the Manor to have the people attend to proper sanitation.

In the year of NICHOLAS HIGGS's death, and the year following, namely, 1658, HENRY WINCHCOMBE, Esqre., was Lord of the Manor and Borough of Thatcham, JOHN HARRISON (or HARRISON) was Steward, WILLIAM DANCASTLE, Constable, and JOHN PAINTER, Hayward.

\* He held the position of Registrar in the Parish.





Before passing on to NICHOLAS HIGGS, the younger, of Henwick, it may be of interest to note the personalities of the two overseers chosen by his father to assist him in the administration of his will, namely JOHN POTTINGER of Burghulbury (or Bucklebury) and RICHARD JOYES of Henwick, in Thatcham.

JOHN POTTINGER was of an old Berkshire family connected with the district surrounding Thatcham, and at West Compton, a village close by, the POTTINGERS had been seated for many generations, and the church and churchyard there contains many vaults filled with their remains. NICHOLAS HIGGS's grandson, the son of his son GRIFFITH, who resided at South Stoke, in all probability was the same GRIFFITH, or GRIFFIN, HIGGS who married MARY the daughter of JOHN POTTINGER of West Compton, who died in 1678, and there can be little doubt that NICHOLAS HIGGS's "beloved friend" JOHN POTTINGER of Bucklebury was one of this family, if not the same JOHN POTTINGER of West Compton.

RICHARD JOYES of Henwick, his other "beloved friend", appointed as overseer of his will, was also of a family long associated with Thatcham. We find one RICHARD JOYES a churchwarden in Thatcham in 1680. The name is spelt in various ways—JOYES, JOYCES, JOYCE, etc.—and it is particularly interesting to note later that one JOHN JOYCE, with little doubt a descendant, in 1803 was one who, with WILLIAM HIGGS and SAMSON HIGGS, witnessed the Meeting House Certificate licensing the house of Mrs. HANNAH BAILY for Divine Worship by Protestant Dissenters on 17 August that year.

**The Will of Nicholas Higgs, the elder, yeoman of Henwick**, was dated 2 June, 1657. Though his mind was clear he was well nigh unto death, and as he was buried in the churchyard only three days later he was probably one of the many taken by the plague at this time. There can be little doubt that he was able to write, for his father wrote a beautiful hand, and his son NICHOLAS could also write, which was not very usual at this period among the yeomanry. He, however, could only but make a scribble with the quill, as will be noted from the reproduction at the end of his will, which reads as follows :

ORIGINAL UNFILED WILL IN THE ARCHDEACONRY OF BERKS., REF.  
BOND "A" 1662.

**In the name of God, Amen :** The second day of June, in the year of Our Lord God, One thousand, six hundred and fifty seven, I NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick, in the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks, Yeoman, being sick in body, yet of sound and perfect memory. I bless God for the same kind, not knowing how soon it may please God to surprise me by death, and not willing to have anything to do with the World, but to employ my whole time in preparation for my dissolution, do therefore now make my last Will and Testament in the manner and form following :—

And first of all I commend my soul unto God, trusting in the merits of Jesus Christ to be with Him for ever in Glory, and my body I commit to the earth—to be decently interred at the discretion of my Overseers hereafter named.

**And whereas**—I have a lease, by deed indented, bearing the date the Seventeenth day of June, in the fifteenth year of the reign of our late Sovereign Lord KING CHARLES 1st, made, demised and granted, set and to farm, let unto the said NICHOLAS HIGGS by and from WILLIAM EASTON\* of Catmere, in the County of Berks, Esquire, THOMAS NELSON of Chaddlesworth, in the County of Berks, Esquire, and JOHN WINCHCOMB of Henwick beforesaid, in the said County of Berks., Esquire on the one part and me, the said NICHOLAS HIGGS on the other part, of an Estate for term of years, and a tenement called—"Knights" in Henwick, as in the said indenture is expressed. I the said NICHOLAS HIGGS, ANNIS HIGGS, my now wife and WALTER CHRISTMAS of Shiplake, in the County of Oxon., husbandman, brother to the said ANNIS HIGGS, my wife, or any of us shall live so long as in the said indenture is set forth.

**Now my Will is** that ANNIS, my wife, SARAH, JOAN, MARY and MARGARET HIGGS, my daughters, shall have and hold the foresaid tenement—called "Knights"—with the appurtenances thereunto belonging from, and after, the day of my decease to be equally

\* Alias EYTON.





divided between them the said ANNIS, my wife, SARAH, JOAN, MARY and MARGARET HIGGS, my daughters, for—and during—their natural lives of the said ANNIS, my wife and WALTER CHRISTMAS, her brother beforesaid, or the longest liver of them, and if it happen my said wife to decease, that then my Will is that her part of the said tenement to be equally divided between my said daughters, and likewise my Will is, if either of my said daughters to decease that, then their parts to be equally divided between the survivors, and if shall happen my said wife to decease, and also the said SARAH, JOAN, MARY and MARGARET HIGGS likewise to decease, before the said WALTER CHRISTMAS then my Will is that GRIFFITH HIGGS and WALTER HIGGS, my sons, shall have the said tenement with the profits thereof during the foresaid term of the said WALTER CHRISTMAS so long live and the survivor of them, and if it shall happen, all my aforesaid children with my said wife to decease before the said WALTER CHRISTMAS, then my Will is that NICHOLAS HIGGS my son shall have the said tenement with the profits thereof during the life of the said WALTER CHRISTMAS.

All the rest of my goods and chattels, whatsoever, both real and personal my Will is to be equally divided between the said ANNIS my wife, SARAH, JOAN, MARY & MARGARET, my daughters beforesaid, at the discretion of my overseers herein mentioned.

And, I do entreat my well beloved friends—JOHN POTTINGER of Burghulbury, in the County of Berks, Yeoman, and RICHARD JOYES of Henwick beforesaid, in the County of Berks., Yeoman to be overseers of this my last Will and Testament, and give them for their pains taken therein five shillings apiece, and that they will see me decently buried at the discretion of my said wife, and SARAH, JOAN, MARY and MARGARET my daughters.

IN WITNESS of this my last Will and Testament, I have forthwith set my hand and Seal—the day and year aforesaid.

*Nicholas*

*Higgs*  
*Edw. Master*

Signed and sealed in the presence of—

RICHARD LAMBOURN.  
RICHARD JOYES.  
RICHARD SMITH.

SEAL



**The Account, or Declaration of the Account of Nicholas Higgs** the natural and lawful son, and Administrator of all and singular the goods, credits and chattels of NICHOLAS HIGGS, whilst he lived of Henwick, in the Parish of Thatcham, within the Archdeaconry of Berks., Yeoman, late deceased with his Will nuncupative unto the Letters of Administration annexed, made and declared as well of and upon all such goods, credits chattels of the said deceased, which since his death did, or lawfully might, come to ye hands and possession of the said Administrator, as also of and upon all such debts, Legacies and other necessary payments and charges as have been made, and necessarily are by him to be paid and laid out as Administrator, since the death of the said NICHOLAS HIGGS, his father, given, and exhibition before the Worshipful EDWARD MASTER, Junior of the Laws and Official unto the Archdeacon of the Archdeaconry of Berks., the eighth day of the month of October Anno Domini 1663.

**Imprim :** The said accountant chargeth himself with the goods, credits, chattels of the said deceased as the same and prized or valued, specified and contained in an Inventory thereof, made and exhibited and remaining in the Registry of the said Archdeacon, amounting the whole sum of Three hundred and eight pounds, nine shillings and four pence.\*

**Whereof** the said accountant dischargeth himself and draweth allowance for the necessary expenses of the funeral charges of the deceased. Letters of Administration with the Will annexed, passing this account, and other payments and charges as followeth Viz :—

\* This amount does not represent the value of money as to-day, which will be readily seen on reference to the prices against the various items in the account, such as "Three yellow nags, two mares and the harness for them", £11 3s. 4d.





	£	s.	d.
<i>Imprimus</i> : For the funeral expenses . . . . .	3	0	0
<i>Item</i> : For money lent to his Mother* . . . . .	17	2	6
<i>Item</i> : Paid to THOMAS BARON for keeping the children of the deceased one week . . . . .	16	0	
<i>Item</i> : Paid the Miller . . . . .	5	0	
<i>Item</i> : Paid to the Widow GODFREY . . . . .	16	0	
<i>Item</i> : Paid to THOMAS HYDE . . . . .	14	0	
<i>Item</i> : Paid for two Mortuaries . . . . .	1	0	0
<i>Item</i> : Paid for keeping his three sisters MARY, JOAN & MARGARET, 75 weeks . . . . .	28	2	6
<i>Item</i> : Paid for repairing the ground to make it tenable . . . . .	10	5	0
<i>Item</i> : Paid the Widow HOWE for keeping his three sisters JOANE, MARY and MARGARET, 48 weeks at Eight shillings per week . . . . .	19	4	0
<i>Item</i> : Paid to his sister SARAH, and the Widow HOWE for her . . . . .	19	19	3
<i>Item</i> : Paid for apparrell and making thereof shoes, stockings, and other necessaries for his sister JOANE . . . . .	3	0	8
<i>Item</i> : Paid for apparrell and making thereof, shoes, stockings, and other necessaries for his sister MARY . . . . .	2	16	7
<i>Item</i> : Paid for his sister MARGARET's apparell, shoes and other necessaries . . . . .	2	4	2
<i>Item</i> : Paid for his sisters JOAN, MARY and MARGARET. Their diet from Midsummer last to Michaelmas at 8/- per week . . . . .	5	12	0
<i>Item</i> : Paid for his sister SARAH her diet for 14 weeks beginning at Midsummer last to Michaelmas at 3/- per week . . . . .	2	2	0
<i>Item</i> : Paid for taking forth the letters of Administration with the Will annexed and his expenses at all times at Oxon., about the said Administration . . . . .	2	0	0
<i>Item</i> : Paid for passing this account to the Judge of Adminis- tration . . . . .	1	14	0
Suma expositor . . . . .	£120	13	8

This account made by NICHOLAS HIGGS's son NICHOLAS is interesting as showing just how the family of NICHOLAS HIGGS and ANNIS CHRISTMAS his wife were cared for upon becoming orphans in 1660, when, as we have seen, their mother ANNIS died in March of that year, just three years after their father's death.

The widow HOWE seems to have had the care of the three youngest daughters, JOAN, MARY and MARGARET. MARY was but seven years old when her mother passed away, whilst little MARGARET was only four. SARAH also was cared for by the same widow woman, and no doubt married early in life—when she became the wife of RICHARD SMITH *alias* FFOSTER, of a family long settled in Thatcham, and who had witnessed the will of NICHOLAS HIGGS her father, whilst ANNE, as we have recorded, went to live at Shiplake.

Of the boys we learn little. GRIFFITH, the eldest, in all probability went to his relatives in South Stoke, where he lived and died; whilst WALTER and THOMAS both died at Thatcham in 1669, probably of the Plague. At the time of their parents' decease these were no doubt old enough to provide for themselves.

The account is also of particular interest in the detail it gives of the cost of food, and clothing, at this period.

In addition to this account, the Inventory of the goods and chattels of NICHOLAS HIGGS, the elder, yeoman of Henwick, taken and appraised on 19 April, 1661 (13 Charles II), by RICHARD CARTER of Thatcham, yeoman, WALTER CHRISTMAS of

\* ANNIS, wife of NICHOLAS HIGGS, the elder, of Henwick.





Shiplake, yeoman, JOHN POTTINGER of Burghulbury, yeoman, JOHN IREMONGER of Hampstead Norris, Co. Berks (tailor), and NICHOLAS BUSHNELL of Thatcham, yeoman, is also of peculiar interest, as giving in detail the contents of the home at Henwick, the stock on the farm, etc., and the valuations of same at the period. The Inventory in detail is as follows :

	£	s.	d.
" <i>Imprimis</i> : His wearing apparel with the money in his purse .	3	6	8
<i>Item</i> : <i>In the Bedchamber</i> : One fine bedstead, one feather bed, with the furniture belonging to it . . . . .	3	10	0
<i>Item</i> : One table, one cupboard, two fine stools and one chest .	1	15	6
<i>Item</i> : <i>In the Upper Chamber</i> : One bedstead, two truckle beds, three flock beds, with the furniture belonging to them .	2	0	4
<i>Item</i> : <i>In the Hall</i> : One long table with the frame, one form, one cupboard; two chairs, two fine stools with their lumber .	14	0	
<i>Item</i> : One flaggon, one pewter bowl, one pint pewter pot, one pewter candlestick and pewter dishes . . . . .	12	0	
<i>Item</i> : One brass pot, one brass kettle, one brass skimmer, one warming pan, two frying pans, one water bottle . . . . .	1	13	4
<i>Item</i> : One pair of anglers, two cotterrells,* one spitt, two pair of tongs, one fire thonell, one gird iron, two smoking irons, one iron bar . . . . .	13	6	
<i>Item</i> : The linen and holland sheets, one holland pillow beare, four pairs of other sheets, two table cloths, and four napkins .	1	10	0
<i>Item</i> : <i>In the Cutlery</i> : Three barrells, three tubs, two kiners, one salting tub, with other lumber . . . . .	1	0	0
<i>Item</i> : Five flicks of bacon . . . . .	1	13	4
<i>Item</i> : Three yellow nags, two mares and the harness to them .	11	3	4
<i>Item</i> : One long cart, one dung pot, one pair wheels, one cart line, two ploughs with the tackling to them, one pair of harrows . . . . .	4	0	0
<i>Item</i> : Eleven ewes and lambs and forty dry sheep . . . . .	16	0	0
<i>Item</i> : Four score of pigs . . . . .	2	0	0
<i>Item</i> : Four milch kine, three heifers & two yearling bullocks .	15	10	0
<i>Item</i> : The Corn in the barn . . . . .	5	0	0
<i>Item</i> : The (—?—), the bushel, sacks & seives . . . . .	1	0	0
<i>Item</i> : <i>In the Wool Loft</i> : The Wool . . . . .	2	3	4
<i>Item</i> : The corn upon the grounds being twenty seven acres with the tillage and seed . . . . .	27	0	0
<i>Item</i> : The lease of the living . . . . .	140	0	0
<i>Item</i> : One obligation wherein GRIFFITH HIGGS† of South Stoke, in the County of Oxon, Yeoman standeth bound for the payment of . . . . .	20	0	0
<hr/>			
The total sum cometh to . . . . .	£262	5	4

By the time that NICHOLAS HIGGS the younger had received the amount of his account of disbursements, namely, £120 13s. 8d., there was not much left for the heirs of the youngest son of GRIFFITH HIGGS of South Stoke by SARA PAIN his wife, and the members of the Thatcham branch of a wealthy family had an uphill struggle.

\* A cotteril was a small iron wedge formerly used for securing a bolt.

† It is difficult to determine which GRIFFITH HIGGS of South Stoke this refers to, for there were so many of the name. This was probably his nephew, the eldest son of BARTON HIGGS, or it may have been his son GRIFFITH.





## CHAPTER V

## Restoration of the Monarchy ; Nicholas Higgs and Roger Higgs

THE news of the landing of CHARLES, son of the Martyr King, at Dover on 26 May, 1660, spread like magic through the borough of Thatcham and its surrounding Manors, for the residents of the district had, through all the troublous times, remained—for the greater part—faithful to both Church and State. The church bells throughout the land rang out the joyful news and expressed the sentiments of the people, who had had enough of the over-strict rule of the Puritans during the eleven years of the Protectorate, under the great Parliamentary leader OLIVER CROMWELL, whose policy had proven too strenuous for the people of England. It began to be realized that “the swing of the pendulum” was as bad in the extreme of one direction as it had been in the extreme of the other, and in the restoration of the Monarchy, and a change of rule, their hope for better days was now centred. CROMWELL had been as great a statesman as he had proven himself a general, and it had been under his rule that the union of Scotland and England had been incorporated, which has proved a boon to both nations, and the memory of the prosperous security, enjoyed by both during those days, brought about the final union in 1707. It was at Scone, on 1 January, 1651, that PRINCE CHARLES was crowned CHARLES II, and in the following August, at the head of an army of 10,000 men, he had invaded England, only to be utterly routed at Worcester, and he had been obliged to escape to France, where he remained until the death of CROMWELL, after which event he was invited by the English to return as king. Three years later\* he visited Newbury, and, accompanied by the DUKE OF YORK (afterwards JAMES II), rode over the scenes of the battle grounds in which engagements he, as PRINCE OF WALES, had been present. Upon this occasion the Mayor and Corporation of Newbury presented the “Merrie Monarch” (as he was termed from his gay *bonhomie*, a trait in his character which kept him popular throughout his reign, which, from the Restoration to his death in 1685, is a record of, perhaps, the worst reign in English history. He was “dissolute where his father had been chaste, but pliable where his father was obstinate”)—with a purse of gold and an address of welcome, and during his visit to the scenes of conflict and bloodshed between the Royalists and Parliamentarians, he and his Court were entertained by SIR THOMAS DOLMAN at Shaw House, sleeping the night in that fine old residence of the DOLMAN family. (SIR THOMAS was the son of HUMPHREY DOLMAN of Shaw; he was one of the Deputy Lieutenants of the county and a Justice of the Peace. His son THOMAS was knighted at Shaw in 1703, when the QUEEN OF CHARLES II—CATHERINE OF BRAGANZA—visited him upon her return from Bath in that year.) There was much rejoicing and celebrating in the district upon the occasion of the King’s visit to Shaw, and the people of the surrounding country flocked to voice their welcome. Although we have no record of the part that NICHOLAS HIGGS, the younger, now of the little estate at Henwick, took, yet he and his brothers WALTER and THOMAS no doubt participated in these public expressions of loyalty to the Crown. NICHOLAS was an executor to the will of his illustrious uncle, the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS of South Stoke, a chaplain to the late King, and one who had suffered so much in the Royalist cause, and there can be little doubt that his relatives, the DANCASTLES of the Grange at Shaw,

\* *Vide* ‘History of Newbury’.





as well as Major JOHN EYSTON of Bucklebury, were prominent among the visitors to Dolman House upon this great occasion.

NICHOLAS HIGGS had been married a year or two previous to this celebration to a daughter of a family long settled in the parish of Thatcham, namely, ANN DIBLEY. She was the daughter of ROGER and ELEANOR DIBLEY of Henwick, and had four brothers—ROGER, WILLIAM, EDMOND and JOHN. Her grandfather was also a "ROGER" DIBLEY of Henwick, and her grandmother, MARIE DIBLEY, sealed her will\* with a Tudor rose, surmounted by a ducal coronet. Likewise her great-grandfather was ROGER DIBLEY, Churchwarden of Thatcham in 1596. "ROGER" was, indeed, a family baptismal name, and as early as 1422 one ROGER DIPPELE or DIBLEY is mentioned in a Court Roll† of the Manor of Colthrop in connection with a matter concerning a certain watercourse. One month later to the king's visit to Shaw, we find that NICHOLAS HIGGS's wife ANN presented him with a daughter, who was baptized ANN at Thatcham Parish Church on 18 September, 1663. The married life of NICHOLAS and ANN HIGGS (*née* DIBLEY) must have been but brief, both of them dying within four months of each other in 1665, in all probability victims of the Plague.

The line of descent of the HIGGS family of Thatcham for the next two generations has, indeed, been a mystery, unsolved by several well-known genealogists who have tackled the problem, and is still unsolved. As we have recorded, NICHOLAS HIGGS the elder, of Henwick, had at least four known sons—GRIFFITH, the eldest, who resided at South Stoke, and NICHOLAS, WALTER and THOMAS, all of Henwick. GRIFFITH, passing away at South Stoke in 1664, left one known son, GRIFFITH, who administered the estate of his uncle, WALTER HIGGS, twenty-two years after his decease on 17 November, 1691, WALTER HIGGS having died at Thatcham in 1669. We find that THOMAS was buried at Thatcham also in that year, and as no other mention is made of either WALTER or THOMAS in the parish registers, it is presumed that they died bachelors. Coming to NICHOLAS HIGGS (the younger), the only child of his mentioned in the registers is his daughter ANN, whom he made sole executrix of his will when she became of age, leaving her to the care of those whom he appointed as overseers, and to her grandmother ELEANOR DIBLEY, and after her decease, to her aunt JOANE BASFORD,‡ her mother's sister, so that apparently the only male heir of this generation was GRIFFITH, the son of his eldest brother. Yet in his, the next generation of HIGGS in Thatcham, and the *only male of the name* in the parish mentioned in the local records of that generation, is one ROGER HIGGS, who obtained his living as a cooper—a very flourishing trade, and a remunerative one at this period, owing to the number of oak barrels in demand for wine and beer, and also in the manufacture of seed lips, also of wood, used by the farmers for the hand sowing of grain. Had a son been born to NICHOLAS HIGGS the younger, and ANN, his wife, it is highly probable that he would have been named "ROGER" from his mother's long line of ancestors of this baptismal name, yet it is most strange that NICHOLAS HIGGS should have made no mention in his will of such a son, especially as he survived his wife ANN some four months. NICHOLAS HIGGS's sister MARGARET, in her will dated 29 May, 1673, and proved in September of that year (P.C.C. Reg., "Pye", fo. 114), makes mention of "HANNAH, daughter of my brother NICHOLAS". The question naturally arises, "*Is this HANNAH identical with the daughter ANN mentioned by her father?*" ANN, ANNA and HANNAH were probably all names which would apply to this child. If NICHOLAS had *two* daughters, ANN and HANNAH, it is also more than likely that he also had a son "ROGER" between the time of his marriage to ANN DIBLEY and her decease in 1665.

\* Original Berkshire will of MARIE DIBLEY proved 22 June, 1631.

† *Vide* 'Thatcham, Berks, and its Manors', by SAMUEL BARFIELD, Appendices to Book IV, fo. 333.

‡ A JOHN BASFORD was mentioned in the long list of names of those who failed to appear at the Court Leet held at Newbury 1643. A THOMAS BASFORD was churchwarden of Newbury Parish Church in 1670, *vide* 'History of Newbury', by WALTER MONEY, F.S.A., ff. 256 and 525.





The record of their marriage has not been found in the Thatcham registers, and it may be that they were married in one of the surrounding parishes. A brother of ANN, JOHN DIBLEY, or DYBLEY, lived at Wyfold, parish of Boxford, Co. Berks, and he conveyed to NICHOLAS HIGGS one mortgage of a parcel of land he owned, lying in Donnington, in consideration for the loan of the sum of four hundred pounds. This property NICHOLAS HIGGS left to his daughter ANN. (It is possible that the ANN HIGGS who married RICHARD BUTLER at Compton, near Newbury, 6 October, 1698, may have been this ANN HIGGS.) Another explanation of the mystery of the actual line of descent at this period is that NICHOLAS HIGGS's eldest brother GRIFFITH, living at South Stoke (whose wife's name was SARAH, and who afterwards became the wife of WILLIAM MIDDLETON of Sladend, in Brightwell, Co. Berks, yeoman), may have also married a DIBLEY, and that they named a second son "ROGER", and that he settled in Thatcham with his relatives there. (In the Thatcham Parish Registers WILLIAM DIBLEY of Coldrop Manor had a daughter SARAH who was baptized at Thatcham on 15 March, 1616.) The parish records, and those Court Rolls which have been found and examined, are strangely silent in reference to the HIGGS family at this time. Certain it is that no members of the family were called to appear before any of the manorial courts for delinquency or misbehaviour. *The answer to this mystery may yet be found in some Berkshire or Oxfordshire will, or some Thatcham parish record or Court Roll, which may come to light.*

And again it may be that ROGER HIGGS settled in Thatcham from Basildon, in the county of Berks, for—as noted in the close of the third chapter of this volume—the HIGGS family of that place were closely related to those of South Stoke, three to four miles up the river in Oxfordshire, and were also related to the HIGGSSES of Cheltenham, in Gloucestershire. In the Basildon Parish Registers the marriage of a ROGER HIGGS is recorded in 1608, and possibly he was the grandfather of the Thatcham ROGER. A ROGER HIGGS of Bucklebury had his banns of marriage to ANN CARSON published in the Market Place of Reading, 11 December, 1658, and was probably married by the Mayor during those days of unrest. Their wedding is not recorded in the registers of St. Laurence, neither is it entered at Bucklebury. The name of "ROGER" is one not at all common in the HIGGS family in general; in fact, through all the researches of both the late Mr. FREDERICK HIGGS and the writer the following are the only ROGER HIGGSSES noted:

- (1) ROGER, of Hartleborne, in the county of Worcester, whose will was proved in 1601 (P.C.C. Ref. "Woodhall", fo. 32).
- (2) ROGER, in the service of NICODEMUS EDENS, Esqre., of Banbury, in the county of Oxford, who by his will—proved in 1610 (P.C.C. Ref. "Wingfield", fo. 90)—left certain money to the children of NICODEMUS EDENS as well as to charities and apparently left no issue. He was a son of one RICHARD HIGGS of Oxfordshire.
- (3) ROGER, who was married, as above stated, at Basildon, Co. Berks., in 1608.
- (4) ROGER, whose Banns of Marriage were published at Reading 1658.
- (5) ROGER, son of above, baptized at Bucklebury 25 January, 1661.
- (6) ROGER, a son of the Rev. JOHN HIGGS of Claverley, in the county of Shropshire, and a brother of the Rev. RICHARD HIGGS, patron and vicar of Higley in that county. He was born about 1700. (*Vide* Part II.)
- (7) ROGER, son of the above.
- (8) ROGER, of Westminster, Gentleman, whose will was proved in 1681. (P.C.C. Ref. "North", fo. 59.)
- (9) ROGER, a brother mentioned by NICHOLAS HIGGS of London in his Will proved 1665 (P.C.C. Ref. "Hyde", fo. 26), who had two sons, ROGER and WILLIAM, nephews of the said NICHOLAS. This ROGER is with little doubt the ROGER HIGGS of Westminster (1681), so that only these few of the name all over England have been found, apart from one ROGER HIGGS, Gentleman, who accompanied KING CHARLES I into Scotland, and was one of those who then received Knighthood. He, too, may have been one of the foregoing ROGER HIGGSSES.





NICHOLAS HIGGS, the younger, of Henwick, yeoman, did not long survive his parents, for he passed away and was buried in Thatcham churchyard on 23 August, 1665, just four months after his wife ANN, the daughter of ROGER DIBLEY of Henwick, had died—for it was on 12 April in that year that she had been interred in the same churchyard. His eldest brother, GRIFFITH, had passed away at South Stoke the previous year, and in 1669 it will have been noticed that the other two brothers, WALTER and THOMAS, were buried at Thatcham, so that *all* the sons of NICHOLAS HIGGS the elder of Henwick died within five years of each other (between 1664–1669), and two, if not three, of his daughters passed away between that period. From his daughter MARGARET'S will, which she made on 29 May, 1673—when she was but seventeen years of age (proved P.C.C. in September of that year, Ref. "Pye", fo. 114)—it would appear that JOAN was the only child of this family living to act as executor at this date.

The will of NICHOLAS HIGGS, the younger, of Henwick, yeoman, was made by him on 10 August, 1665, only a few days before he passed away, though he was able to append his signature in a fairly legible hand. He sealed same with a plain shield bearing the arms of the family—"Argent, a chevron between three bucks lodged-gules". This was a red wax seal appended to the parchment, but much deteriorated when first examined by the writer about 1905, and had fallen to pieces upon a later examination. An illustration is given at the end of NICHOLAS HIGGS'S will with his signature :

THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF NICHOLAS HIGGS THE YOUNGER  
(YEOMAN) of HENWICK, ADJOINING COLD ASH, IN THE PARISH OF THATCHAM,  
IN THE COUNTY OF BERKS.

(Proved 1666. Ref. P.C.C. "Mico", fo. 59.)

**In the name of God, Amen :** The tenth day of August, in the seventeenth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord, CHARLES THE SECOND by the Grace of God—of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, KING : Defender of the Faith, in the year of Our Lord 1665, I, NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick, in the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks, being weak in body but of good, sound and perfect mind and remembrance, praised be Almighty God for the same, do hereby revoke all Wills by me heretofore made and do make, ordain and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following :

**First** and before all things I do most humbly and heartily commend my soul into the Hands of Almighty God, my Maker and Redeemer, confidently trusting, and most assuredly believing that through the merits, death and passion of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ He will receive me into His Everlasting Kingdom ; And—as for my body, my Will is that the same shall be decently buried, according to the discretion of my Overseers hereafter named, and as touching my temporal Estate in lands, goods, and chattels, wherewith it has pleased Almighty God to bless me, my Will is as followeth :

**Imprimis :** I give unto the Poor people of the Town and Parish of Thatcham the sum of Fifty Shillings to be distributed amongst them by my Overseers within one month next after my decease.

**Item :** From and after the payment of all my debts (excepting one debt of Fifty Pounds due from me to ELLENOR DIBLEY, my Mother-in-law, which my Will is should be paid out of a debt of Four hundred pounds due to me from JOHN DIBLEY, son of the said ELEANOR), and my funeral expenses being discharged, I give and bequeath all my Stocks, Crops of corn, grain, hay and household stuff (excepting one brass pot, which I give to my Mother-in-law, and three several bonds and one bill, and several sums of money due thereupon from HENRY HARVEY of South Stoke, in the County of Oxford, Yeoman, except such things as shall be hereinafter excepted) unto my brother WALTER HIGGS and unto my five sisters—ANNE, SARAH, JOANE, MARY and MARGARET to be equally divided amongst them, share and share alike by the Overseers of this my last





Will and Testament hereinafter named. And in case either, or any, of my said brother and sisters shall happen to die and depart this life before the said sum of money shall be received, or recovered, and the stocks, crops and other goods and premises shall be divided as aforesaid, then my Will and desire is that the part or share of him or her so dying shall be equally divided among the survivors of them.

**Item :** My Will and desire is that my Overseers, of this my last Will and Testament, immediately after my decease, let sell and according to their divisions dispose of the messuage, or tenement lands and premises that I now live in to the best profit and advantage and benefit of my sisters that is to say—SARAH, JOANE and MARGARET and MARY and the rents, issues and profits thereof to be equally divided amongst them, share and share alike.

**Item :** I give unto my sister-in-law JOANE BASFORD (*née* DIBLEY) one stone mortar and to her two children ten shillings apiece.

**Item :** I give unto the two children of my brother-in-law WILLIAM DIBLEY ten shillings apiece.

**Item :** I give unto RICHARD ATFIELD\* of Newbury my best suit of wearing apparel.

**Item :** I give and bequeath unto my daughter ANNE HIGGS my best bed and bedstead, and all the furniture thereunto belonging, one silver salt, six silver spoons, and my great chest in the lower chamber, and all my wife's child bed linen, together with her wearing apparel and her wearing linen, and likewise two gold rings, one silver bodkin, and silver thimble, and four pieces of pewter that were given to her at her christening, one pair of flaxen sheets, one pair of holland pillowbers, and one desk to put small linen in.

**Item :** I give and bequeath unto my said daughter ANNA one mortgage of a parcel of land lying in Donnington, in the said County of Berks made to me for the consideration of Four hundred pounds by JOHN DIBLEY of Wyfold, in the said County of Berks, Yeoman, with the growing yearly rents and profits issuing out of the same, and all the deeds, evidences and writings belonging to the said Mortgage, but in case my said daughter shall happen to die, and depart this life before she shall be married, or shall accomplish the full age of one and twenty, then my Will is that Fifty Pounds of the said Four hundred pounds shall be paid unto my Mother-in-law ELEANOR DIBLEY, her executors, administrators or assigns in substitution and discharge of the debt thereinbefore mentioned due to her. And the other three hundred and fifty pounds—residue of the four hundred pounds—to be equally divided and distributed amongst WALTER HIGGS my brother, my five sisters ANNE, SARAH, JOANE, MARY and MARGARET, and my sister-in-law MARY DIBLEY, or to such, or to so many of them as shall be then living share and share alike. But if my daughter shall live to be married, or live to one and twenty years of age then shall she to pay the said debts.

**Item :** I give, will, and bequeath all my other goods, chattels, bonds, bills, specialties, and all other estate whatsoever not herein, or hereby before given or bequeathed unto my said daughter ANNA HIGGS whom I do hereby make sole executrix of this my last Will and Testament. But in regards my executrix is an infant, I do hereby will and desire and request my loving friends THOMAS VOYSEY, Clerke, RICHARD CARTER, the elder of Thatcham, Yeoman, JOHN POTTINGER of Burghulbury (Bucklebury), and JOHN DASH of Henwick that they will take upon them the probate of this my last Will & Testament, notwithstanding in trust, and for the sole use, benefit, and behalf of ANNA my said daughter. And for their pains, and care, and trouble to be taken and undergone therein, I do hereby give and bequeath unto each of them Twenty shillings apiece.

**Item :** My Will and desire is that my Mother-in-law ELEANOR DIBLEY will please to take upon her the care, tuition, boarding, and education of the said ANNA my daughter, and if my said Mother-in-law shall happen to die and depart this life before my said daughter shall be either married, or accomplish the age of one and twenty years, then my will and desire is that my sister-in-law JOANE BASFORD will take upon her the care, tuition and education of my said daughter to whom I do hereby allow for her meat,

\* RICHARD ATFIELD was a relative of NICHOLAS HIGGS's wife. A JOHN ATTEFIELD's name appears in the Court Leet held at Newbury, 1643; also that of "WIDDOW" ATTEFIELD (Money's 'History of Newbury', ff. 256 and 258).





drink, apparel, schooling, and education the sum of twelve pounds a year to be paid out of my yearly Rents, and profits, of the said mortgage, herein before mentioned and the residue and remainder of the said mortgage to be managed and improved to the best use, benefit and advantage of my said daughter by them the said THOMAS VOYSEY, RICHARD CARTER, JOHN SPICER, JOHN POTTINGER and JOHN DASH whom I nominate and appoint and do hereby intreat to be Overseers of this my last Will and Testament, and I do\* hereby give full power and authority unto my said Overseers above named to arrest, sue, imprison and implead, as also to compound and agree with any person, or persons, that are and stands indebted unto me, or were indebted unto GRIFFITH HIGGS, Doctor in Divinity deceased, Uncle of me the said NICHOLAS HIGGS, one of his executors and to sue, arrest and implead the other executor of the said Doctor HIGGS for a true account. And to do therein as they shall be advised by Council. And I do hereby allow my said Overseers to default and deduct to themselves all necessary and reasonable charges and expenses that shall be expended by them therein over and above and besides the legacies hereinbefore given them.

**In Witness** whereof I the said NICHOLAS HIGGS to this my present last Will and Testament have set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

*Nicholas Higgs*



Signed and Sealed, published and declared to be the last Will and Testament of the written named NICHOLAS HIGGS in the presence of—

R. TURNER.  
ROBERT SMEATON.

It is of interest to note NICHOLAS HIGGS's choice of overseers to his will, who were to act for his daughter ANNA, the executrix, until she became of age. (She was then barely two years old and an orphan when he died) :

THOMAS VOYSEY, Clerke in Holy Orders.  
RICHARD CARTER, the elder of Thatcham, Yeoman.  
JOHN SPICER of Leckhamstead, Yeoman.  
JOHN POTTINGER of Burghulbury or Bucklebury.  
& JOHN DASH of Henwick.

The Rev. THOMAS VOISEY, or VOYSEY, who was Vicar of Thatcham from 1657 to 1662, was born at Newton Abbot in Devonshire. He is stated by Dr. CALAMY to have been—

“ A very fervent,\* lively, moving preacher and had a surprising fulness and accuracy in prayer. He had great boldness in reproving sin, which in one instance cost him dear. A neighbouring gentleman, thinking himself affronted, made him feel his resentment. He was apprehended for the North Country Plot and committed to Reading Jail for High Treason. Being ordered to prepare for his trial at Reading Assizes, four of his countrymen appeared to testify that instead of plotting in the north he had been

\* It is worthy of note that SARAH, the former wife of NICHOLAS HIGGS's eldest brother, GRIFFITH HIGGS, who had married secondly WILLIAM MIDDLETON of Sladend in Brightwell, Co. Berks, sued GRIFFITH HIGGS (her former husband's cousin) and GEORGE JEMMETT, the other executor of Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS's will (*vide* Chancery Proceedings, 1690, MIDDLETON *v.* HIGGS, 129/22).

† 'Nonconformist Memorial', vol. i, p. 295.





preaching the Gospel of peace in the west. The news of their coming hindered his enemies from bringing on the trial. The witnesses against him were overheard in the Court discoursing of the several sums of money they had received for the good service they were to have done. From Reading he was moved to Windsor Castle. After fifteen months' imprisonment SIR THOMAS (afterwards LORD) CLIFFORD, whose fellow collegiate Mr. VOYSEY had been, accidentally hearing of his hard case at the secretary's office, procured his release. Being at liberty, he returned to his native country, preaching as he had opportunity".

After Mr. VOYSEY had been discharged from prison he did not resume his functions at Thatcham. He is mentioned by Dr. CALAMY as having been one of the 2000 ministers ejected from the Church of England. Among the Thatcham documents in a deed dated 20 January, 1663, which was a conveyance to fifteen inhabitants in Thatcham, the name of BARTHOLOMEW SPRINGETT, Vicar, is mentioned, he being one of the fifteen.

As NICHOLAS HIGGS dated his will 10 August, 1665, when dying, it is evident that Mr. VOYSEY, who had ceased to be vicar in 1662, and who had returned to his birthplace in Devonshire, must have been a very intimate friend of NICHOLAS HIGGS during his incumbency for him to name him as one of those to act as overseers of his will and as guardian to his little daughter ANN.

RICHARD CARTER, the elder, of Thatcham, yeoman, was no doubt the same RICHARD CARTER who, as the local attorney, had acted in the case of NICHOLAS HIGGS the elder's will.

JOHN SPICER of Leckhampstead, yeoman, was no doubt of the same family of SPICER, if not the same JOHN SPICER whose name appears in a Court Roll of the Manor of Henwick, with the names of WILLIAM DIBLEY and GEORGE MORTIMER under date 16 October, 1700.

JOHN POTTINGER of Burghulbury or Bucklebury was no doubt the same JOHN POTTINGER who was overseer of the will of NICHOLAS HIGGS the elder of Henwick.

And lastly JOHN DASH, who belonged to a family long seated in Thatcham. A JOHN DASH was churchwarden in 1573, whilst another JOHN DASH was churchwarden in 1688, 1690 and 1691, and in all probability this very man was also one of the jurors of a Court of the Manor of Henwick held 19 October, 1670.

Before passing on to the next generation of HIGGSES in Thatcham, the two short wills of NICHOLAS HIGGS, the younger's sisters, ANN and MARGARET, are decidedly interesting, and throw further light upon the family at this time and their kinsfolk.

The eldest sister, ANNE, had gone to Shiplake, and it may be, resided there with her uncle WALTER CHRISTMAS, or with her cousins the JEMMETTS of Crowsley Farm. She died in Shiplake and was no doubt interred there. Her will is dated 21 August, 1665, and the original is filed in the Consistory Court of Oxon, P.P.R. London. An abstract of same reads as follows :

A.D. 1665. Aug. 21. ANN HIGGES of Shiplake, Co. Oxon., Spinster.

*Item* : To "Four weedos" (widows) 20/-.

*Item* : To "Cosen WALTAR JEMATE's six children 2/6d apeece."

*Item* : To "ANN BENWELL and MARY PARKER 2/6d apeece."

*Item* : "I give 12/- to be bestowed upon four sugar loves which I give to Mrs. STEEVENS; my cosenes WALTAR's wife; my cosen GEORGE's wife (JEMMET), and WILLIAM ADKINE's wife."

*Item* : "To my ouncekill WALTAR CHRISTMAS to [two] children 2/6d apeece."

*Item* : "To cosen JONE PIGGOTT my best hat etc."

*Item* : "To cosen WALTAR's wife a suite."

*Item* : "To Cosen MARY LUCY a pettycoat."

*Item* : "To Cosen ANNES JEMAT one silver thimbell etc."

*Item* : "To SISLEY SYMONES one Hollan handcarchar. Goddau."

*Item* : "To ANN CORDDARY, a mantell value 10/-."

*Item* : "To Cosen GEORGE JEMMAT Junr. 2/6d."





*Item* : " To the widow HUSE (or HOWES) of Thacham one clocked handcarchar."

*Item* : " To my brother NICHOLAS' dafter [daughter] ANN 2/6d."

*Item* : " To brother WALTAR HIGGES and sister SARA £12 and odd money, which is due from Mr. PATEN of Milten for interest of money, if it can be gotten equally between them."

*Item* : " The residue to be divided between my three youngest sistares JONE, MAREY and MARGARET."

" My Ounckill WALTER CHRISTMAS of Henly, Co. Oxon Malstar to be Executor.

" Cosen WALTER JEMMAT and -cosen GEORGE JEMMAT to be Overseers to whom I give 5/- each.

Witnesses : WALTER CHRISTMAS.

WALTER JEMMOTT.

An Inventory was taken on the 4th day of May 1666, by WALTER JEMOTT and GEORGE JEMMATT—Total value £82.0.0.

Exhibited and sworn by executor, 21 August 1666.

THE WILL OF MARGARET HIGGS OF HENWICK IN THE PARISH OF THATCHAM (SPINSTER)—DAUGHTER OF NICHOLAS HIGGS, THE ELDER, AND SISTER OF NICHOLAS HIGGS THE YOUNGER OF HENWICK.

*Dated 29 May, 1673. Proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, September, 1673. Ref. "Pye", fo. 114. Somerset House.*

**In the Name of God, Amen.** The nine and twentieth day of May, in the year of Our Lord God, One thousand, six hundred and seventy three. I, MARGARET HIGGS of Henwick, in the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks, Spinster, revoking all former Wills by me made heretofore, do make and ordain this my last Will & Testament in manner and form following :—

**First**—I give and bequeath my Soul into the Hands of Almighty God my Creator, trusting assuredly to be saved by the merits and mediation of my Saviour Jesus Christ, through the Sanctification of the Spirit : And my body to the Earth from whence it was taken to be decently buried by my executrix hereafter named : As for my worldly estate I dispose of it as followeth :—

**Imprimis** : I give to my brother-in-law RICHARD SMITH one shilling.

**Item** : I give and bequeath to my Sister SARAH's four children Twenty Pounds (that is five pounds apiece) to be paid within one year after my decease. And if it happen any of them to die before the time to the survivors of them.

**Item** : I give to my Cousin MARY, my thimble and to my Cousin SARAH my silver bodkin also.

**Item** : I give to my Cousin HANNAH,\* the daughter of my brother NICHOLAS my Gold Ring.

**Item** : I give to my brother GRIFFITH's child†—Five shillings. All the rest of my goods (my funeral expenses and my legacies paid) I give and bequeath to my sister JOANE, whom I do make my sole Executrix of this my last Will and Testament.

And I desire my loving friends—JOHN DASH and JOHN SPICER to be mine Overseers of this my last Will and Testament.

**In Witness** thereof I have set my hand and seal the day and year above written.

✕ The Mark of MARGARET HIGGS.

I, MARGARET HIGGS do declare and publish this to be my last Will and Testament in the presence of :—

JOHN DASH.  
JANE DASH.  
JOHN IREMONGER.

\* The use of the word "cousin" at this period meant relative.

† GRIFFITH, son of GRIFFITH and SARAH HIGGS of South Stoke, who administered his uncle WALTER HIGGS's estate (twenty-two years after WALTER HIGGS's decease in 1669, at Thatcham), 17 November, 1691, was evidently born at the date of MARGARET HIGGS (his aunt) making her will, 29 May, 1673, and probably some years before.





Coming to the next generation of HIGGS in Thatcham we find ROGER engaged in the business of coopering. His parentage is indeed shrouded in a mystery, which some thirty years of research have failed to give the answer to such questions as—

- (1) Was he the son of NICHOLAS HIGGS the younger of Henwick, by ANN, the daughter of ROGER DIBLEY?
- (2) Was he a son of GRIFFITH HIGGS, the eldest brother of NICHOLAS HIGGS the younger of Henwick, who lived at South Stoke?
- (3) Did he settle in Thatcham from Basildon, where many of the Higgses of that place were engaged in the then remunerative business of coopering?
- (4) Was he the ROGER HIGGS, the son of ROGER HIGGS the brother of NICHOLAS HIGGS of London, who died there in 1665?
- (5) Was he a son of WALTER or of THOMAS HIGGS of Thatcham?
- Or (6) was he the ROGER, son of ROGER HIGGS and ANN CARSON of Bucklebury, baptized there 25 January, 1661?

Some day perhaps some genealogist may definitely be able to say. Unquestionably he was of the same family, as all these HIGGSSES in Berkshire and Oxfordshire (some of whom had migrated to London) were closely related.

No record exists of his marriage in the Thatcham Parish Registers, which must have taken place somewhere about the year 1689. There were four children born to him, though his wife's name is not given, and these were baptized or buried at Thatcham Parish Church as follows:

- (1) ROGER HIGGS, baptized 12 June, 1690, and buried two days later. At the entry of his baptism his father's name is misspelt "HICKS".
- (2) MARY, baptized 26 July, 1691. (Here the entry is distinctly given as a daughter of ROGER HIGGS.)
- (3) "A SON OF ROGER HIGGS", baptized, no name being given, 1 June, 1694.
- (4) WILLIAM, "son of ROGER HIGGS, Cowper", buried 14 July, 1694.

There was probably another son of this name born later, as we find a WILLIAM HIGGS living in Thatcham in 1722, baptizing his son by the name of HENRY in December of that year, and also burying another son, THOMAS, in the churchyard on 8 July, 1723, and having a daughter baptized HANNAH 21 May, 1724. This WILLIAM HIGGS is, with little doubt, the same WILLIAM HIGGS whose name we find subscribed as a witness to a Nonconformist Meeting House Certificate\* under date of 17 August, 1803, licensing the house of Mrs. HANNAH BAILY, and in the possession of Mr. JOHN BARFIELD, for religious worship and for the use of His Majesty's Protestant subjects dissenting from the Church of England, according to an Act of Parliament made in the first year of the reign of our late Sovereigns KING WILLIAM and QUEEN MARY, entitled "An Act for Exempting their Majesty's Protestant subjects dissenting from the Church of England from the Penalties of Certain Laws". This certificate was witnessed by JNO. BARFIELD, JOHN JOYCE (no doubt a descendant of the same family as the RICHARD JOYES, or JOYCE, of Henwick, one of the overseers of the will of NICHOLAS HIGGS the elder of Henwick, 1657), WILLIAM HIGGS and SAMPSON HIGGS.

Likewise, this WILLIAM HIGGS's name appears upon a similar certificate, under date of 1 December, 1804, licensing a building especially erected in Thatcham as a meeting house, and vested in the names of the Rev. JOHN WINTER, the Rev. ROBERT SLOPER; THOMAS WILSON, Esqre.; THOMAS PELLATT, Esqre.; SAMUEL TOOMER, Esqre.; WILLIAM GRAHAM, linendraper; JOSEPH TOOMER, ironmonger; BENJAMIN FULLER, stationer; WILLIAM LEACH, gentleman; VALENTINE LEACH, linendraper; JOHN BERRY, gentleman; THOMAS TANNER, gentleman; and JOHN BARFIELD, gentleman; and their heirs; being

\* 'Thatcham and Berks and its Manors', by Samuel Barfield.



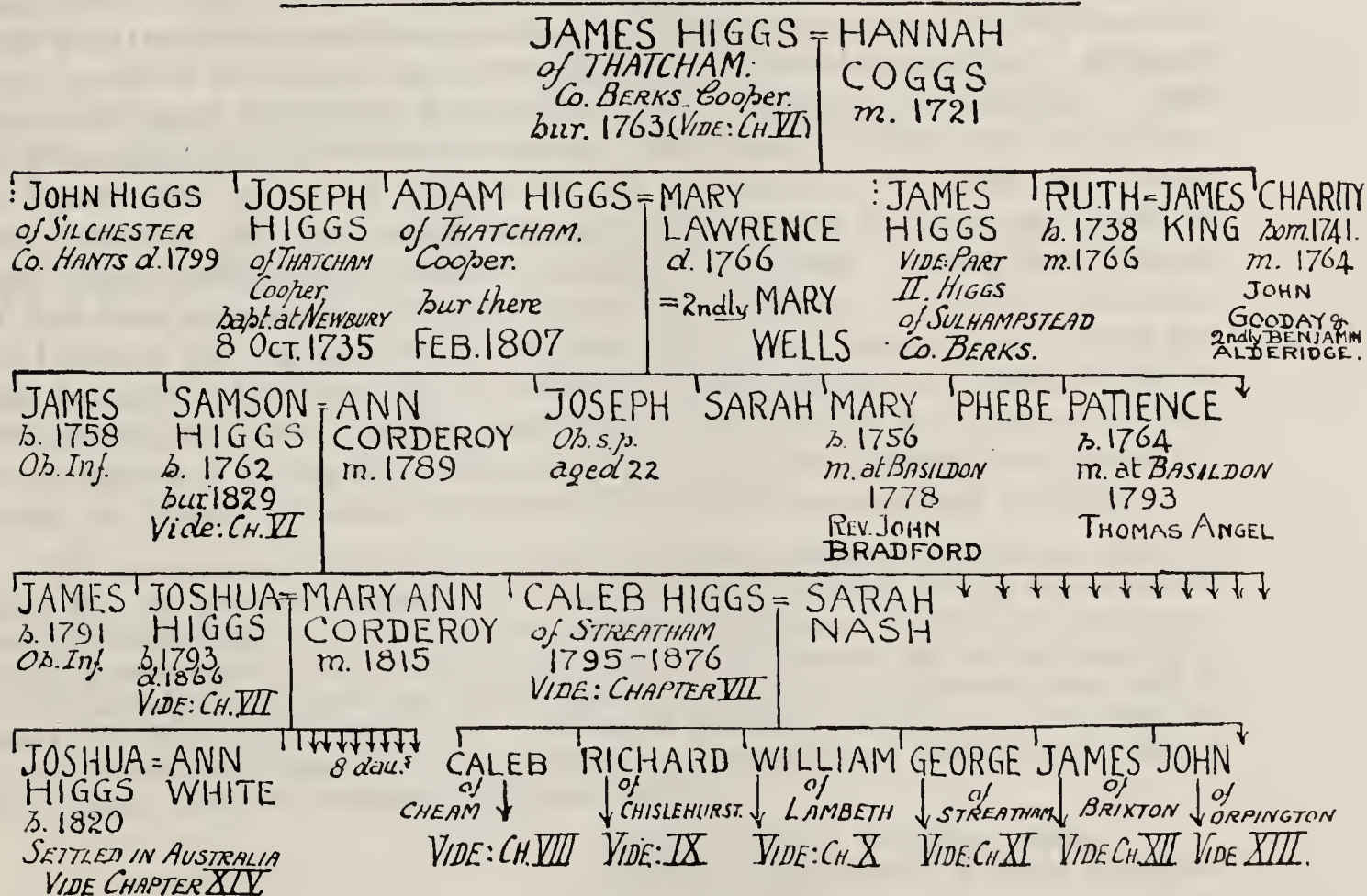


witnessed by JNO. BARFIELD, ELIZABETH BARFIELD, THOMAS POCOCK, WILLIAM POCOCK, JOSHUA COOK, REBEKAH COOK, JOHN JOYCE, SAMPSON HIGGS, WILLIAM HIGGS, MARY HIGGS, ANN HIGGS, DANIEL FASETT, sen., DANIEL FASETT, jun., JONATHAN FOSESTER, JOHN FIDLER, WILLIAM WOODWARD, ANN NISBET, ELIZABETH NISBET, ELI. BLAGRAVE and SOPHIE BLAGRAVE.

ROGER HIGGS died at Thatcham in 1730 and was buried in the churchyard on 27 October.

No record of ROGER HIGGS's will has been found.

### KEY PEDIGREE TO CHAPTERS VI-XIII







## CHAPTER VI

## James Higgs, Adam Higgs, and Samson Higgs

It would seem from a careful search of the parish records at Thatcham that the unnamed "son of ROGER HIGGS" mentioned in the last chapter as having been so baptized on 1 June, 1694, was one JAMES HIGGS, who also followed the business of coopering, and who is mentioned as marrying HANNAH, the daughter of WILLIAM COGGS of Henwick on 2 November, 1721, then aged twenty-five, she having been baptized at Thatcham Parish Church 17 January, 1696. This JAMES HIGGS was, with little doubt, brother to WILLIAM HIGGS mentioned in the preceding chapter, and from this marriage the line of descent is completely established down to the twentieth century. Religious persecution still raged throughout the country. The "swing of the pendulum" from the strict Puritanism of the seventeenth century—when those of other views had suffered at their hands, and wanton destruction of art, ecclesiastical buildings, and sacred symbolism, had been rife—now swung back to a worse state of affairs in the Church, as the people became indifferent to religious thought and worship. During the Commonwealth it had been a crime for a man to even shave on Sunday. Now the reaction had set in, and Sunday trading even became the rule rather than the exception, and so bad did things become in Thatcham in the matter of Sunday observance, both in trading and public worship at church, that we find a strong effort was made to enforce the laws, and a Declaration was drawn up and signed by the vicar, the churchwarden, two of the magistrates, and Messrs. RICHARD and HENRY TULL, which was worded as follows :

"We whose names are hereunder written do hereby declare that it is our wish and desire that the practice of buying and selling, and exposing goods for sale on, and otherwise profaning, the Lord's Day in the parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks., should from henceforth be prohibited, and the several Laws made for the due observation of the Sabbath be enforced, and carried into execution against all persons who shall be found offending against such Laws. And we do mutually agree to use, and exert our utmost efforts and influence in endeavouring to suppress and prevent such offences from being committed in future in the said Parish.

(Signed) JAMES CROFT, Greenham Lodge  
 ARCHER THOMPSON, Vicar of Thatcham  
 RICHARD TULL  
 HENRY TULL  
 WILLIAM POYNTZ  
 & JOHN BLAY."

Mr. CROFT and Mr. POYNTZ were the magistrates residing respectively at Greenham and Midgham ; Mr. RICHARD TULL and Mr. HENRY TULL were the owners of Crookham House and lands, and of Chamberhouse Manor, and Mr. JOHN BLAY was churchwarden from 1809-1826.

It was not, however, until 1809, or later, that this effort was made, and for nearly a century matters had been growing worse. The Rev. JOHN COCK had succeeded Mr. BARTHOLOMEW SPRINGETT as vicar in 1687, and continued as such until 1723, and it





was he, no doubt, who united in holy matrimony JAMES HIGGS and HANNAH COGGS. During Mr. SPRINGETT'S incumbency lawlessness seems to have abounded in the district, and in the churchwardens' reports to the Bishop we find church affairs much neglected, and from their own words at this time we learn the following :

- (1) That " The Mother Church had been a long time out of repair ".
- (2) That many were reported—" For not coming to Church in time for Divine Service ".
- (3) That others were reported—" For making a disturbance in our church in time of Divine Service ".
- (4) That one WILLIAM COOMBES was reported " For not paying his Midgham Church rate ".
- (5) That various illegitimate children were born in the parish.

Dr. SETH WARD, the Bishop of the diocese from 1667 to 1688, is reputed to have been " both diligent and methodical ", as well as anxious to learn the real condition of affairs throughout his jurisdiction. It is, however, related of him that he carried out in all their rigour not only the provisions of the Act of Uniformity, but also the various Penal Acts, passed just before his episcopate, against various bodies of nonconformists.\*

" In 1668† the Commons believing that—under colour of easing the Presbyterians—the King intended to obtain a general indulgence for all Nonconformists, including the Roman Catholics, presented an address praying him to enforce the laws against conventicles, and to so preserve the Peace against all unlawful assemblies of papists and nonconformists."

From various subsequent churchwardens' reports it is evident that many were reported for not paying their Church Rates or taxes—and no doubt there was a good deal of hard feeling caused by the endeavour to enforce payments from the people in connection with religious matters. Those who still clung to the Puritan ideas and were, no doubt, sincerely devout, formed various bodies for religious worship, and many broke away from the Established Church, and its jurisdiction, joining such branches of nonconformity as the Baptists, the Independents, the Presbyterians, and those who later styled themselves as " Of Lady Huntingdon's Connexion " (or the Reformed Episcopal Church), and ere such decisions were made, there were some who, no doubt, openly rebelled by " making a disturbance during Divine service " in the church against practices in the form of service, which they considered savoured of Romish doctrine, and a return to prior Reformation days, whilst many no doubt ignored altogether religious thought and public worship, with the result that it became necessary in the beginning of the nineteenth century for the local authorities to issue the Declaration referred to in order to curb Sunday trading in Thatcham, and to remind the people of the Laws of the Realm in this respect.

Among those who had openly rebelled in Thatcham Church during the hours of Divine Service in 1683 was one RICHARD COGES, or COGGS. The COGGS, COGGES, or COGES family was one long connected with Thatcham. One of the first entries in the parish register of marriages is of this family, and which reads as follows :

" 1587. October 9, THOMAS COGGES and JOAN . . . ."

And again in—

" 1654. THOMAS COGGES and GRACE MASON of Thacham had their bonds of matrimony published three sev'all Lords dayes in the Parish Church of Thacham aforesaid, the first day of publication beinge ye third day of December."

The witnesses to this marriage were HUMF. DOLMAN, his signature being by itself ; also (THOS.) DOLMAN and BATHORPE the Registrar.

\* ' Diocesan History of Salisbury,' by Rev. W. H. JONES, M.A., F.S.A., p. 238.

† See ' House of Lords' Reports, Domestic Series '.





PEDIGREE of COGGES, or COGGS, of HENWICK parish of THATCHAM BERKS.

*SHOWING the ANCESTRY of HANNAH wife of JAMES HIGGS  
of COLD ASH, by HENWICK in the parish of THATCHAM.*

THOMAS COGGES = JOAN . . . . .  
*of HENWICK*

bur at THATCHAM 27 FEB 1609

mar. at THATCHAM 9 OCT 1587

bur. there 10 SEPT. 1597

THOMAS COGGS = ANN . . . . . JOHAN MARY = JOHN FULLBROOKE

*of the parish of  
THATCHAM.*

bapt: 27 NOV. 1590.

bur: at THATCHAM  
22 JUNE 1649

bapt. 15 SEPT. 1593. THATCHAM  
at THATCHAM 1 MARCH  
bur. there 1600  
10 SEPT. 1597 m: there  
130 OCT.  
1628.

THOMAS COGGS = JANE SAUNDERS PHILLIP RICHARD = "THOMSON" LEE  
*of the parish of  
THATCHAM.*

m: at THATCHAM

17 FEB. 1644

= he mar. secondly.

GRACE MASON  
in 1654. She was  
bur. at THATCHAM

4 MARCH 1661

COGGS COGGS

bapt. 2 JULY 1621 THATCHAM

at THATCHAM 9 DEC 1625

mar. at THATCHAM.

5 JULY 1646

bur. there  
10 MAY 1661.

THOMAS JOHN GILES NEHEMIAH RICHARD THOMAS WILLIAM ELIZABETH  
COGGS COGGS COGGS COGGS COGGS COGGS COGGS JUSTICE

*of THATCHAM*

bapt. at  
THATCHAM

29 NOV.  
1645

*of THATCHAM.*

bapt. at  
THATCHAM

18 FEB.  
1647

*of THATCHAM.*

bapt. at  
THATCHAM

18 SEPT.  
1653

*of THATCHAM*

bapt. there  
25 APR. 1647

mar. there  
ANNE  
BENNETT  
8 APR 1672  
by whom he  
left issue  
buried at  
THATCHAM  
6 APR 1676

*of THATCHAM*

he was reported  
by the Vicar

MR SPRINGETT  
"For making a  
disturbance  
in the Parish  
Church during  
the hours of  
Divine Service"

in 1683  
he mar. at  
THATCHAM 24 JAN  
1661 JOANE HEWES

*of THATCHAM.*

mamed  
and  
left  
issue

1658

*of HENWICK*

bapt. at  
THATCHAM

1 MARCH  
1658

*mar. at*

BRADFIELD  
Co. BERKS.

20 APRIL  
1685.  
she was in  
all proba-  
bility a dau  
of WILLIAM  
JUSTICE who  
mar. JOANE  
LANGLEY  
of  
BASILDON  
at  
BRADFIELD  
20 Nov.  
1669

NEHEMIAH COGGS HANNAH = JAMES HIGGS

*of THATCHAM*

bapt. there 19 DEC 1686

bapt 17 JAN  
1696

at THATCHAM

mar. there  
2 Nov. 1721

*of COLD ASH by  
HENWICK in the  
par. of THATCHAM*

bur. at THATCHAM  
19 JULY 1763.

VIDE. PEDIGREE  
of HIGGS of SULHAMSTEAD  
PART II. UNDER HIGGS of BERKSHIRE.





It may be that this RICHARD COGGS, who was fined for the disturbance he had made in the church in 1683, and was no doubt HANNAH HIGGS's uncle, was one of those who had become incensed by the "swing of the pendulum" after the Reformation back to the practices which savoured of the old forms of religious worship in the State Church. Trouble was rampant throughout the country, because men were prevented from worshipping as they individually, or collectively, felt to be right. There was no freedom in religious thought, as is now largely permitted, one sect persecuting the other to the limit of its power, and it seems that it has taken several generations for men to become of broader vision, and to realize—in their mistaken zeal for certain views of religious thought and doctrine—that the words of old, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?"—have a Divine message of true Christianity for observance to all posterity. And, even in the twentieth century, that message and teaching is, in many quarters of the so-called Christian Church, seemingly little understood, and *the same fatal mistake* is being made by many *sincere* men in their fidelity to their own particular views, rather than to the true ethics of Christianity.

It would seem that JAMES HIGGS was the first of his family to break away from the Established Church, in all probability through the influence of his wife. Whilst, according to the law of the land, their marriage had to be solemnized in the Parish Church, it was not there that their children were taken for baptism, as some of their children were taken by the parents over to the Meeting House of the Independents at Newbury and there registered. This Meeting House in Newbury had been built just four years before their marriage, and was licensed for public worship in 1717. It continued to be used as such until 1822, when the old building—being much out of repair—was pulled down, and the present Independent Chapel was erected upon its site, the foundation stone of which was laid 4 June in that year, by the Rev. JOHN WINTER, in whose name, with others, the Independent Meeting House at Thatcham had been vested 1 December, 1804. There were earlier dissenting places of worship in Newbury. The Presbyterians had a meeting house in Bartholomew Street in 1696, where they gathered in the home of the Rev. WILLIAM TAYLOR, removing to a site near the river, on the east side of Northbrooke, in the following year. The Baptists had a meeting house in 1702, whilst two years earlier the dwelling house of Mrs. MARY WOODBRIDGE, widow of the Rev. BENJAMIN WOODBRIDGE, and also the dwelling house of Mr. THOMAS HUNT, had both been certified (in January, 1700) as authorized places for worship by dissenters. In the following April yet another dwelling house was certified for this purpose, namely, that belonging to Mrs. ELIZABETH HOUGHTON, widow. The Quakers also had a meeting house in 1701, whereas before that date they had given continuous trouble to the authorities for non-attendance at the authorized churches for worship, and many of them were committed to prison. Among these the following list of names as offenders in 1683 may be of interest :

"ROBERT WILSON ; THOMAS MARSH ; RICHARD BROWNE ; JOHN GRAY\* ; JOHN JOHNS ; ROBERT JOHNS ; JOHN PLANT, junr. ; EDWARD MILLS ; JOSEPH GRAY ; BENJAKIN GRAY ; WM. TOVEY ; JOHN WAYERMAN ; WILLIAM MILLS, junr. ; ROBERT COX ; EDWARD AVELYN and THOMAS JOHNS."

In 1684 : WILLIAM WHITE, grocer, and his wife ; ROBERT GOSLING, junr., and his wife ; JOHN HILL, grocer, and his wife ; WIDDOW CHYLD ; MATTHEW HILL ; RICHARD HUTCHINS, jun. ; RICHARD FINCH ; PRUDENCE, wife of JOHN STRONG ; SARAH, wife of JOSEPH GRAY ; and many others too numerous to mention here, were committed for—

"Not repairing to the Parish Church of Newbury to heare Divine Service and Sermon upon the two last Lord's Dayes com'only called Sunday, vizt. the 5th and 12th dayes of this instant October."

\* Eighty years later a JOHN GRAY witnessed the will of JAMES HIGGS.





Many of these people were Quakers.

We even find in the same year, at a Court held in Newbury, in April, 1684, the following order in the records of that Court :

"Alsoe that ANNE HODSON, widdow, and THOMAS FFLAGGOTT, their several Ale-houses be suppressed, for that they—nor either of them—have received the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper According to the Liturgie of the Church of England within XIJ [12] months past."

It is no wonder that the people of the land rebelled against such coercion in religious matters in the seventeenth century, and its effect was bitterness and strife, and the authorities—finding out how impossible it was to *force* the people by imprisonment and persecution to attend the State Church against their consciences and religious views—gave permission for the various dissenting bodies to worship in private dwellings and meeting houses licensed for the purpose. Thus it was that we find JAMES HIGGS and HANNAH (*née* COGGS), his wife, going over from Thatcham to Newbury to have their son JOSEPH baptized and registered on 8 October, 1735. It will be noticed that JAMES and HANNAH HIGGS were married in 1721, and strange to say this is *the first record* of any child born of this marriage. There is a tradition in the family that "JOSEPH had another brother, who left home under a cloud, thought possibly to have been the JOHN HIGGS\* of Silchester, in the county of Hants, who died there intestate in June, 1799, aged about sixty-six, and whose heirs were advertised for"; but this has not been proven, and the only children of JAMES and HANNAH HIGGS *proven* by the independent registers and the will of JAMES HIGGS are as follows :

JOSEPH, baptized at Newbury Independent Meeting House, 8 October, 1735.

ADAM,† whose name is not recorded in the Newbury register but mentioned by JAMES HIGGS in his will.

RUTH, baptized and registered at Newbury 24 November, 1738. She married JAMES KING at Thatcham Parish Church 30 December, 1766.

CHARITY, baptized at Newbury 15 June, 1741. She married twice; first to JOHN GOODAY of Woolliampton (to whose sister HANNAH, JOSEPH HIGGS left money) 20 August, 1764, and upon JOHN GOODAY's decease she married BENJAMIN ALDERIDGE.

There was, however, another son, probably the youngest child, who left home after some trouble with his father, after whom he was named (*vide* "HIGGS Family of Sulhampstead", Part II).

JAMES HIGGS was buried in Thatcham churchyard 19 July, 1763. He made his will on the 16th day of that month in the presence of JOHN WATLIN, JOHN GRAY and JOHN HOPSON, and this was proved at Newbury 22 July that year by his widow HANNAH and son JOSEPH. The will was sealed with a Royalist Memorial Ring bearing the head of the *Martyr King Charles I* and the words "Royal Martyr", and was signed by JAMES HIGGS.

This seal is most interesting, and was in all probability one that had been handed down to him from his ancestors. There is little doubt that JAMES HIGGS, though dissenting from the State Church, still clung to the old traditions, and whilst having his children registered in the Independent Meeting House at Newbury, there is evidence that those children did not all follow that line of religious thought. The elder of the two sons, JOSEPH, in fact, was very much against his brother, ADAM, encouraging "the black-coated men", as he termed the dissenting ministers, and so much so that he left his money to his kinswoman Miss HANNAH GOODAY, sister of CHARITY HIGGS's first husband,

\* *Vide* copy of this advertisement, which appeared in the 'London Daily Times', 2 June, 1837, given later in this chapter.

† Had ADAM HIGGS's name not been mentioned by his father in his will *no proof* of sonship could have been established except by old family letters and deeds preserved.





and to her second husband, BENJAMIN ALDERIDGE, a cordwainer in Woolhampton. (The ALDERIDGE or ALDRIDGE family were settled in Thatcham as early as 1549, when one JOHN ALDRIDGE was in occupation of a messuage in the Manor of Crookham, under the tenancy of one JOHN GODDARD, whose descendants for three or four hundred years were well known in Crookham, and the neighbourhood, one of whom it will be seen married the great-granddaughter of ADAM HIGGS in the nineteenth century.) Strange to relate, after JOSEPH HIGGS's decease, about 1802, HANNAH GOODAY became the wife of one of the BAILY family of Newbury\* and of Thatcham, and it will be remembered in the preceding chapter that on 17 August, 1803, the house of Mrs. HANNAH BAILY was licensed for religious worship of Protestant Dissenters, and so, after all, JOSEPH HIGGS's money left to her was used in the "encouragement of the black-coated men". JOSEPH HIGGS dated his will 27 September, 1795. It was not, however, proved until 25 March, 1802, when his friends, GEORGE and ELIZABETH PECK of Newbury, took an affidavit before the Commissioner of Oaths, Mr. H. S. COTTON, verifying his signature, and stating that they knew his character well. He was a bachelor and a recluse, decidedly eccentric, and it is related† of him that "when he retired for the night he reached his upstairs room without stairs by means of a ladder, and for some years previous to his death slept in a coffin he had made for himself". He followed his father's business of coopering, as did his brother ADAM HIGGS, but apparently the two brothers had little in common.

Before passing on to some account of ADAM HIGGS of Cold Ash, by Henwick, it may be stated that JAMES HIGGS owned a small property of some fifteen acres in extent, bounded on the north and north-east by the road leading from Thatcham to Bucklebury, on the south and south-west by a lane called "The City Lane" and cottages and gardens (in the occupation of Mrs. WITWORTH and Miss HARMAN in 1864), and on the east by meadow land called "The Plat", which he entailed to his two sons, JOSEPH, whom he termed as his "dutiful son", and his son ADAM. By his own mention of JOSEPH it would appear that JOSEPH was particularly devoted to his father, or that they had much in common in their views. JOSEPH dying without heirs, the property came to his brother ADAM.

The will of JAMES HIGGS, proved in 1763 in the Consistory Court of Sarum, reads as follows :

**In the Name of God Amen.** I, JAMES HIGGS of Cold Ash, within the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks, Bucket Maker (Bent ware Maker and Cooper) being of sound and disposing mind and memory and understanding do make, publish and declare this my last Will and Testament in manner and form following :—(That is to say)

**First :** I give and devise unto my loving wife and dutiful son JOSEPH, all that my now dwelling house, with the outhouses, offices, gardens and ponds, and all other my messuages, lands and tenements, whatsoever and wheresoever, to hold them for three years from my decease, and from and immediately after the expiration of the said term of three years next after my decease, then I give and devise unto my son ADAM, and his heirs for ever, the East end or east part of my said dwellinghouse with the South part of the garden and orchard (except the buildings and outhouses, offices, ponds and soil whereon they stand and what is given my said son JOSEPH, ponds, at all times convenient roads and passages for wagons, carts, horses and carriages, with loading of any kind into, through, from and over the same to the West end part of the said dwellinghouse and to the said buildings, outhouses and offices) charges as hereinafter mentioned, and also and immediately after the expiration of the said term of three years after my decease—then

I give and devise unto my said son JOSEPH, and to the heirs of his body, lawfully to be begotten and their heirs for ever ; and for want of such issue—To my dutiful daughters—RUTH and CHARITY and their heirs for ever as tenants in common.

\* See Part II, "The BAILY Family".

† Letter written to W. MILLER HIGGS from Mrs. MARIA HOPSON of South End, Newtown Road, Newbury, Berks, dated 19 October, 1897.





The West end, or western part of my said dwellinghouse with all and every the shops, smoke houses, stable, cart house, ship houses, furnace and all other buildings, with the backsides, working places, yards and curtilages and the land, ground and soil whereon they severally stand and are, and also the North part of the garden and Orchard, and all other messuages, lands, tenements whatsoever and wheresoever; provided, nevertheless, and it is my Will and I hereby so order that from my decease until my said daughters respective marriage they shall gratis have an abiding place and home in the said West end or part of my said dwellinghouse.

**And it is also** my mind that in case my said son JOSEPH shall go about or attempt to bar this entail that then his devise shall immediately descend and go to his said two sisters in manner before mentioned as if he were dead without issue or barring the entail.

**Also I give** to my said two daughters, RUTH and CHARITY, fifteen Pounds apiece payable to them or survivor of deceased legatee leaving no lawful issue three years next after my decease.

**And I order** fifteen pounds part thereof to be paid to my said son ADAM out of my devise to him before he has possession delivered him which I hereby order to be detained until such payment by my executors, which may apply the rents and profits in the meantime till raised towards paying my said daughters in case my son ADAM makes failure in paying same.

**And I order** Fifteen Pounds the other part thereof to be paid out of my Residue by my said wife and son JOSEPH, and also all my Stock, debts, goods, cattle, chattels and residuum. I give and bequeath unto my said wife and son JOSEPH in trust, in the first place to make the most thereof for the first three years to divide and share the then stock and produce thereof (if any) equally between them my said wife and son JOSEPH. But my will is that what my said wife leaves at her death shall be my said son JOSEPH's and I hereby so give and order.

**And lastly**, revoking every other Will and testament, I hereby declare this to be my last Will and Testament and thereof make my said wife and son JOSEPH joint executors.

**In witness Whereof**—I the said JAMES HIGGS, the testator have hereunto set my hand and seal this 16th day of July 1763 in the 3rd year of KING GEORGE, the Third's reign.

*James Higgs*

SIGNED, SEALED AND PUBLISHED and declared by the said Testator in his presence at his request, and in the presence of each other of us

JOHN WATLIN  
JOHN GRAY  
JOHN HOPSON.



Proved at Newbury 22nd July 1763. (Fos. 12 J. J.)

It was on 23 December, 1753, that ADAM HIGGS (ten years before his father's decease) married MARY LAWRENCE at Thatcham Parish Church. This was during the incumbency of the Rev. FRANCIS SPACKMAN, who was vicar of Thatcham from 1723 to 1773, and even the State Church at this time was under the influence of the strict Puritanism which had prevailed throughout the land, and as late as 1731 Mr. SPACKMAN and the churchwardens, WILLIAM PERRY, CHARLES DIBLEY and FRANCIS CLARKE, presented to the archdeacon four persons named "for shaving on the Sabbath Day and neglecting Public Worship".



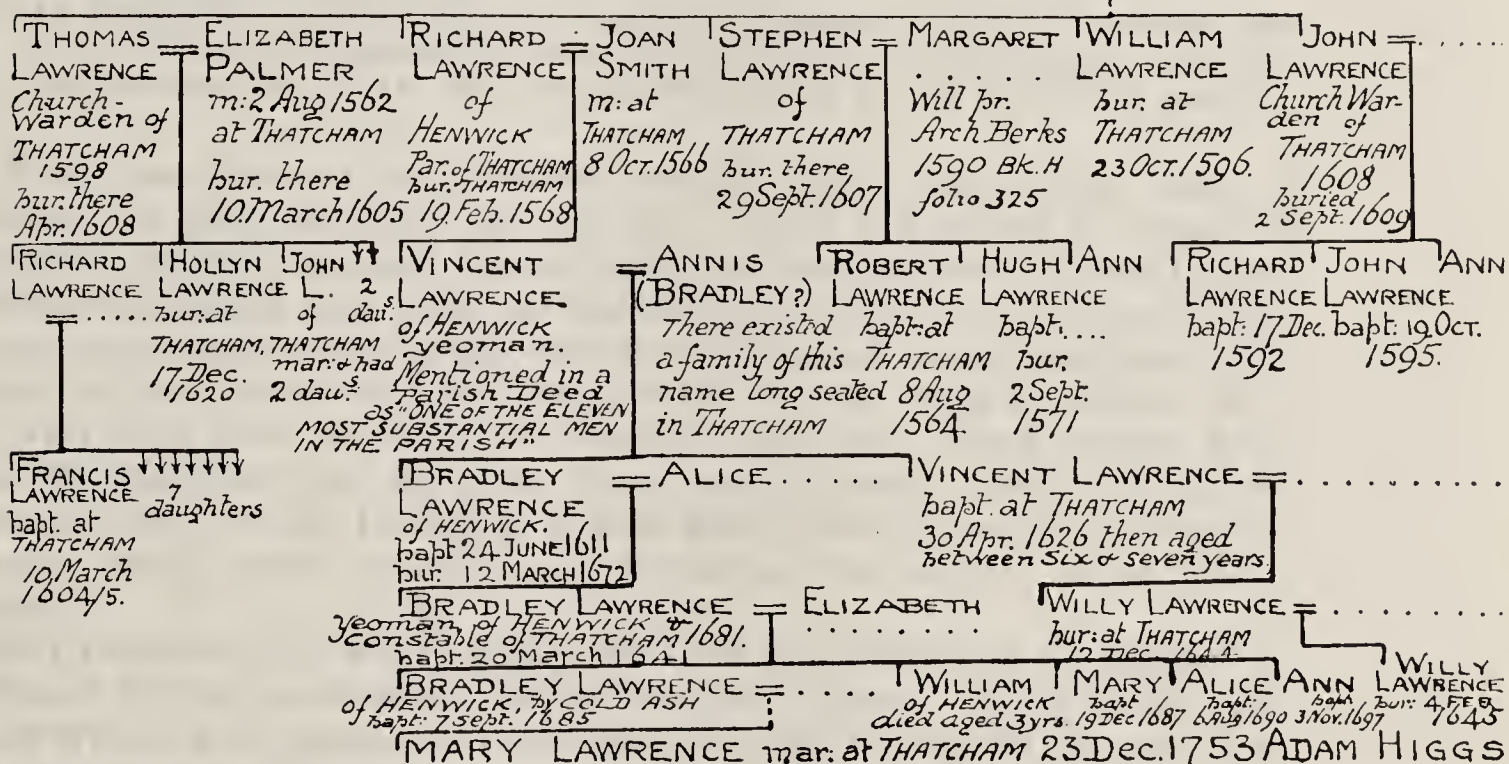


The LAWRENS, LAWRENCE or LAURENCE family had long been connected with Thatcham. The first of the name we find mentioned in a Lay Subsidy Roll in the time of EDWARD I, when he was one of the largest property holders from the rate levied upon him, namely, 8s. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. (only three other persons being rated higher at that time). This was WILLELMO LAWRENS\* or WILLIAM LAWRENCE. In 1598 we find THOMAS LAURENCE as churchwarden; in 1608 and 1609-16 the names of JOHN and RICHARD LAURENCE appear in the church records; from 1627-42 the name of VINCENT LAURENCE, or LAWRENCE, frequently

PEDIGREE of LAWRENS, LAWRENCE or LAURENCE of  
the Parish of THATCHAM Co. BERKS, deduced from the Court Rolls of the Manors  
and Parish Registers showing the probable descent of MARY wife of ADAM HIGGS of Cold Ash

WILLIAM LAWRENS mentioned in a Lay Subsidy Roll of the Manor and Borough of THATCHAM (temp. Edward I. 1272-1307), and therein shown to be one of the largest land holders in the district. FROM HIM WAS PROBABLY DESCENDED—

EDWARD LAWRENCE who was buried at THATCHAM 28 Oct. 1566 = . . . . .



occurs, and in a Court Roll of the Manor of Henwick, 20 October, 1674, the name of BRADLEY LAWRENCE appears; whilst on 13 October, 1676, the name of AGNES LAWRENCE, "juratus pro Aberly Street", is so given in that Court Roll. In the boundaries defined for the District Chapelry† of St. Mark, Cold Ash (1865), "Lawrence Corner in the middle of Lawrence Lane" is given, and also "Lawrence Copse", Cold Ash, so that this family has left its mark upon the topography of this locality, and in a deed dated 7 January, 1605, the name of THOMAS LAWRENCE‡ is mentioned as "one of the eleven most substantial men of the parish". During the thirteen years of their married life ADAM HIGGS had by his wife MARY LAWRENCE three sons and five daughters, as follows:

\* 'Thatcham, Berks, and its Manors,' by Samuel Barfield. Note.—A BENJAMIN HIGGS married one ELIZABETH LAWRENCE at Newbury, Co. Berks, 12 August, 1799 (vide Part II, "Higgs Family of Newbury").

† 'Ecclesiastical Commissioners' Report,' vol. xviii, p. 562.

‡ 'Thatcham, Berks and its Manors,' by SAMUEL BARFIELD, vol. i, fo. 222.





1. JAMES, baptized at Thatcham Parish Church 17 September, 1758. He died a bachelor in his twenty-eighth year and was buried in Thatcham Churchyard 15 June, 1786.
2. SAMSON HIGGS of Cold Ash, by Henwick, of whom later (born 1762).
3. JOSEPH died a bachelor, of tuberculosis, at the age of twenty-two years.
- (1) SARAH, baptized at Thatcham Parish Church 28 December, 1754. She died in infancy and was buried in the churchyard 23 July, 1755.
- (2) MARY, baptized at Thatcham Parish Church 31 May, 1756, she was married at Basildon\* in the county of Berks (where a branch of the HIGGS family had been settled for over two hundred years, closely related to the HIGGS family of South Stoke), 25 March, 1778, to the Rev. JOHN BRADFORD, who was curate at Midgham Church. Later in life the Rev. JOHN BRADFORD dissented from the Church of England and became associated with those known as "of Lady Huntingdon's connexion", being a free church founded by Lady Huntingdon, retaining the Episcopal form of service. He was buried in Bunhill Fields Burial Ground, London.
- (3) PHEBE, baptized 3 August, 1760, at Thatcham Parish Church. She lived until twenty-two years of age, when she died and was buried in Thatcham Churchyard 5 August, 1782.
- (4) PATIENCE, baptized at Thatcham Parish Church 20 July, 1764. She married one THOMAS ANGEL and, like her sister MARY, her marriage took place at Basildon,\* Co. Berks (21 October, 1793).
- (5) "An infant child of ADAM HIGGS", buried 10 November, 1766, at Thatcham, just two months after its mother's decease, which took place in September of that year when she had been laid to rest in the family grave on the 9th day of that month.

ADAM HIGGS was therefore left a widower with six young children (the eldest of whom was but ten years old) when his wife died. ADAM had worked in connection with his father's coopering business, together, no doubt, with his elder brother JOSEPH, until his father's decease in 1763, when the business devolved upon the two sons. How it was that ADAM HIGGS managed to look after his business and young motherless family for the next five years we do not know, unless MARY WELLS, whom he married on 5 December, 1771, kept house for him, as his sister CHARITY had already married JOHN GOODAY of Woolhampton, and his sister RUTH married JAMES KING three months after he lost his wife. It may be that for a while Miss HANNAH GOODAY, to whom his brother JOSEPH left his money, kept house for the brothers and cared for ADAM HIGGS's young family.

Like the LAWRENCES, the WELLS family had been long resident in the parish. In 1585 one PHILIP WELLS was churchwarden of Thatcham Church. On 13 March, 1618, one ROBERT WELLS, with others, was called upon to a jury to consider the case of an annuity in connection with Heardman's Charity of 1594; again one THOMAS WELLS was churchwarden in 1717 and 1744, whilst one RICHARD WELLS is mentioned in a Court Roll of the Manor of Henwick for 1736 as a tenant in that year, and in all probability he was the father of ADAM HIGGS's second wife, who was born in 1733. By her he had one daughter, who became the wife of one named TIMMS. ADAM HIGGS's second wife, MARY WELLS, died in 1812, aged seventy-nine years, and was buried at Thatcham. (It is worthy of note that a JOHN WELLS was a witness of the will of JAMES HIGGS of Wallingford, Co. Berks, in 1742, the youngest son of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon—see his Mural Tablet in St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke, Chapter III.)

Two years before ADAM HIGGS's second marriage to MARY WELLS, he licensed his house at Cold Ash for the preaching of the Gospel to Protestant Dissenters 9 April, 1769, making the restriction that "all ministers who conducted the services of whatever denomination shall be restricted to the use of Dr. ISAAC WATTS's hymns". How it was

\* It will be noted that both MARY and PATIENCE HIGGS were married at Basildon, Berks, and not in their native place as was customary. Basildon is a Berkshire village just across the river and over the downs from South Stoke on the Oxfordshire bank. A branch of the HIGGS family was settled there from the sixteenth century, if not earlier (see Part II, "HIGGS Family of Basildon, Co. Berks").





that he came to take this step we do not know, for up to the time of his first wife's decease it is evident that they had both attended the parish church. It was, however, a fact that from this date and into the early part of the nineteenth century lawlessness seems to have been rife in Thatcham, and as we have previously recorded, Sunday trading had been becoming more and more the practice of the people, until it culminated in 1809, or thereabouts, in the action of the local magistrates and others in taking steps to see that the laws in this regard were respected.

From the following letter, written in August, 1869, by one of ADAM HIGGS's grandchildren, we have a glimpse of his disposition and his character. In writing to Mrs. JOHN HOPSON of Newbury about her grandfather she said: "We children thought Grandfather a morose old man; no doubt we sadly tried him, living so near, nevertheless, he was a Godly man and no doubt a light in that dark spot."

Unquestionably he was a most devout and upright man, decidedly Puritanical in his views of religious thought, yet broad-minded enough to have his house licensed for the use of *all* dissenters—not confining its use to either Independents, Baptists or Presbyterians—yet restricting all such meetings for worship to the use of *Watts's* hymns. To a grandchild he would no doubt appear morose, and in his latter days the life of young people perhaps unduly tried him. In forming any just opinion as to the characters of our ancestors, it is essential to *know the times in which they lived their lives, the influences under which they came, the difficulties and trials they were called upon to endure, together with the customs in vogue, at any definite period in English history.* Without such knowledge our opinion and judgment will be very far astray. It had been long customary in England for the daughters of a family to marry according to the wishes and plans of their parents, and in the sixteenth century, unless a daughter so fell in with her parents' wishes, she would be excluded from legacies under her parents' wills. We happily live in an entirely different age to-day, though in many instances were the desires for the future happiness and well-being of both daughters and sons on the part of loving parents—with experience and saner judgment—given more heed, much subsequent sorrow and suffering would be avoided. Again we see "*the swing of the pendulum*" in this, as well as other matters, and whereas in the sixteenth century, and later, children were obliged to follow the strictest parental rule or suffer financial loss, and, it may be, suffered on account of marriages being arranged apart from the only ground upon which any real happiness could be assured, in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the pendulum has swung to the other extreme, when the desires of loving parents for the future happiness of their children are frequently utterly disregarded, with much subsequent suffering, and divorce as the only possible relief.

Therefore, when we consider the times in which ADAM HIGGS lived we can get a glimpse into his real character, strong a Dissenter that he was, in allowing the marriage of his daughter to a clergyman of the Established Church in March, 1778, and—holding the views he held—it must have been a joy to him when his son-in-law could no longer remain an adherent of the Church, subjected to the State, and allied himself with the same form of worship freed from State control which had been founded by SELINA, Countess of Huntingdon, about 1748, when, in that year, she appointed GEORGE WHITFIELD one of her chaplains, and he preached to her and her friends at Cremorne House, Park Street, London, the audience upon that occasion including such notabilities as LORD BOLINGBROKE, LORD CHESTERFIELD and HORACE WALPOLE. Under WHITFIELD's influence, fashionable ladies invited parties for prayer at each other's houses, as they had been accustomed to invite parties for cards. In the churches which the COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON set up throughout the country, Calvinistic clergymen officiated according to the customs of the Church of England, but entirely without any ecclesiastical authority. They were appointed, and removed, entirely *at the pleasure of their patroness*, and nothing





could be more abject than the submission with which they bowed to "her ladyship's condescension" on every occasion. Most of the churches of the "Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion"\* have now joined the Congregationalists, the modern name for the Independents.

We have referred to the "customs in vogue" at any given period in English history, and the necessity for having a knowledge of such, and conditions then existing, to be able to form any real judgment of life in that particular age. It is, perhaps, difficult for us to realize that during ADAM HIGGS's life it was customary to punish women for even minor offences by *flogging in public*. In May, 1754, one such poor woman was committed to be so treated on the seventh day of that month at Newbury. She was sent to what was known as "The House of Correction", and upon every Friday—for the space of a month—was taken to the whipping-post which stood by the Market Cross, at the south end of the old Guildhall, in the market-place of that town, and there "Publicly whipt between the hours of two and three o'clock in the Afternoon".† Again, in January, 1757, another poor woman named ANN FISHER was "Indicted for feloniously stealing out of the Shop of one HENRY FLEET a Leg of Pork, to which Indictment she pleaded Guilty, and was ordered to be whip'd the next Market day at the publick whipping post". Yet this form of punishment, even for women, evidently met with general public approval in those days. "*The swing of the pendulum*" would seem to have swung too far in the other direction in the twentieth century, when too much mercy is shown to men who stage the terrible "hold-ups" of helpless women for small sums of money. Perhaps the public whipping-post so unmercifully used in the eighteenth century might prove an effectual deterrent in these modern days!

Wine and beer had for centuries been the chief beverages of the people of England. In 1667 French wine sold for about 9d. a quart, Rhenish at 1s. 2d., Sack and Mallegon at 1s. 6d., and Canary, Allegant and Muscadels at 1s. 8d. The usual breakfast beverages—in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries—were water gruel, milk porridge, or beer; these, however, began to be replaced by tea and coffee in the homes of those in a position to afford these, as they were luxuries at this period. In 1710 the very cheapest green tea sold at 12s. per lb., whilst Bohea tea was priced at 12s., 16s., 20s. and 24s. per lb.

In the middle of the seventeenth century we find that it is stated that "Tea was then so scarce in England, that the infusion of it in water was taxed by the gallon, in common with chocolate and sherbet. Two lbs, two ozs. were in 1659 presented to the King by the East India Company, as a most valuable oblation".‡

It was not until the middle of the eighteenth century that tea-drinking began to be general, and it is of no small interest to note that the celebrated JOHN WESLEY, a Church of England clergyman, who was ejected from the established church because he believed that no real Christianity was possible without "Conversion", or a "Supernatural conviction of salvation", looked with a sense of horror upon the evil he saw in drinking tea, and went up and down the country preaching against the practice. Yet who would doubt the sincere, if erroneous, conviction of that great man? It may have been that he viewed the matter from the point of over-indulgence in a then expensive luxury which many could not afford. It is also of interest to note that at this time ADAM HIGGS§ and his wife were the only residents in the neighbourhood of Cold Ash Common who possessed "a tea pot and tea kettle", and it is related how they loaned these to their neighbours on special occasions of entertainment!

\* Harmsworth's 'Encyclopædia', vol. v, fo. 3236.

† 'History of Newbury' by WALTER MONEY, F.S.A., fo. 343.

‡ 'Quarterly Review,' vol. viii, p. 141.

§ 'Life of WILLIAM HIGGS of Lambeth,' by SARAH NASH HIGGS, fo. 10.





ADAM HIGGS died in 1807, and on 27 February was buried in Thatcham churchyard. His second wife, MARY, survived him but five years, when she, too, was buried in the family grave. The will of ADAM HIGGS has not been found.

ABSTRACT OF A DEED TO LEAD THE USES OF A FINE, AND OF THE CHIROGRAPH OF SUCH FINE, RELATING TO PREMISES IN COLD ASH IN THE PARISH OF THATCHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF BERKS.

*Dated—17th day of May, 1805.*

**By indenture** between BENJAMIN ALDRIDGE of Woolhampton, in the County of Berks, Cordwainer, and CHARITY, his wife, of the first part. ADAM HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks, Bent Ware Maker (Cooper) of the Second Part. SAMPSON HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham aforesaid, Bent Ware Maker, Nephew of the said CHARITY ALDRIDGE, and only son and heir apparent of the said ADAM HIGGS, and ANN, the wife of the said SAMPSON HIGGS, of the Third Part, and JOSHUA COOKE of Thatcham aforesaid of the Fourth Part.

**Reciting** that JAMES HIGGS, late of Cold Ash, in the said Parish of Thatcham, Bucket Maker (Cooper) did by his last Will and Testament in writing bearing date on or about the 16th day of July, 1763, and duly excited in such manner as the Law prescribed for rendering valid demises of Lands and hereditaments gave and demised unto his loving wife, and dutiful son JOSEPH all that his then dwellinghouse, with the out-houses, office, gardens and ponds, and all messuages, lands, and tenements, whatsoever and wheresoever, to hold to them for three years from his decease, and from and immediately after the expiration of the said term of three years next after his decease, then he gave and demised unto his son ADAM and his heirs for ever the east end or east part of the said Dwellinghouse, with the South part of the garden and orchard and from and immediately after the expiration of the said term of three years next after his decease, then he gave and demised unto his said son JOSEPH, and to the heirs of his body lawfully to be begotten, and their heirs for ever, and for want of such issue to his two dutiful daughters RUTH and CHARITY, and their heirs for ever as tenants in common, the West end or Western Part of his said Dwellinghouse with all, and every, the shops, smoke houses, stable, carthouse, chip houses, furnace and buildings, with the backsides whereon they severally stood, and were; also the North part of the said Garden and Orchard, and all Ponds and said Roadways and passages, and all other messuages, lands, and tenements whatsoever and wheresoever.

**Also reciting** : that the said JAMES HIGGS, soon after making his said Will, departed this life without altering, or revoking, the same, and the said Will was duly proved in the Court of the Lord Bishop of Sarum.

**Also reciting** : that the said JOSEPH HIGGS departed this life in or about the month of March 1802, without leaving any issue of his body.

**Also reciting** : that the said testor's said daughter RUTH was also long since dead intestate and without issue, and the said CHARITY, the wife of the said BENJAMIN ALDRIDGE, the sister and heir-at-law of the said RUTH was legally entitled to the Fee Simple of the said hereditaments and premises, as were so given and demised to her, and to her second deceased sister, expectant on the decease of the said JOSEPH deceased without issue as aforesaid.

**Also reciting** : that previous to the death of the said JOSEPH HIGGS, he the said JOSEPH HIGGS expressed it as his desire, that the said SAMPSON HIGGS should have the Fee Simple in possession of the said premises, at the decease of him the said JOSEPH HIGGS.

**Also reciting** that the said SAMPSON HIGGS on the death of the said JOSEPH HIGGS, with the permission of the said BENJAMIN ALDRIDGE and CHARITY his wife, entered into and took possession of the said premises, and had been in the quiet and peaceable possession thereof ever since, but no demise or conveyance thereof having been made to the said SAMPSON HIGGS, the said CHARITY ALDRIDGE, being desirous of carrying the desire and intention of her brother JOSEPH HIGGS into complete effect, had proposed, with the concurrence of her said husband, to join in levying a *fine* of the said premises to the uses thereafter mentioned.





**Also reciting :** that the said SAMPSON HIGGS, about 16 years then since, with the permission of his father the said ADAM HIGGS, erected and built a tenement or Dwellinghouse and Outhouses upon part of the land which was so demised to the said ADAM HIGGS as aforesaid, and which was then in the possession of the said SAMPSON HIGGS, and remainder of the said premises so demised to the said ADAM HIGGS aforesaid by the Will of the said JAMES HIGGS were then in the occupation of the said ADAM HIGGS.

**Also reciting** that no conveyance having ever been made to the said SAMPSON HIGGS of the said premises so in his occupation as aforesaid, the said ADAM HIGGS had proposed and agreed to join in the *fine* thereafter corted to be levied as well as to convey the premises in the occupation of the said ADAM HIGGS as aforesaid to the uses thereafter declared.

**And also reciting** that the said SAMPSON HIGGS was seized to him and his heirs of the Plot of Meadow Land and Orchard thereafter particularly mentioned contained and by estimation two acres, subject to the Dower of the said ANN, his wife in case of her surviving him ; and the said SAMPSON HIGGS and ANN his wife were also desirous of joining in the *fine* so intended to be levied as aforesaid to convey the said two acres of Meadow and Orchard to the uses thereafter mentioned.

**It is witnessed** that for settling, conveying, and assuring all and singular the said messuages, or tenements, lands, hereditaments and premises thereinbefore mentioned, and thereafter particularly described to the uses, estates, intents and purposes thereafter expressed and declared, and also in order to carry into effect the said proposals and agreements of the said parties, and the desire and intention of the said JOSEPH HIGGS, and in consideration of ten shillings to the said BENJAMIN ALDRIDGE and CHARITY, his wife, paid by the said JOSHUA COOKE the . . . etc., and also in consideration of the natural love and affection which the said CHARITY ALDRIDGE had bore towards the said SAMPSON HIGGS, her nephew, and for or good causes etc. . . . he the said BENJAMIN ALDRIDGE in consideration of the natural love and affection which the said ADAM HIGGS had and bore towards the said SAMPSON HIGGS, his son, and for all other good causes etc., he the said ADAM HIGGS did for himself and his heirs, and the said SAMPSON HIGGS, in consideration of ten shillings to him paid by the said JOSHUA COOKE, the "recet", etc., did for himself and the said ANN, his wife, his and her heirs, cort and agree with the said JOSHUA COOKE and his heirs, one or more *fine* or *fines* " Sur conurance de droit come ceo " etc., with proclamations etc., of all those messuages, or tenements situate and being at Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham aforesaid, with the outhouses, workshops, gardens and orchards, hereditaments and all and singular other premises comprised in and given and demised by thereinbefore recited Will of the said JAMES HIGGS deceased in manner and in the proportions, parts and shares as thereinbefore recited.

**And also** all erections, and buildings thereon since erected, as the said premises were then in the several occupations of the said ADAM HIGGS, and the said SAMPSON HIGGS.

**And also** a certain Plot or Meadow situate and being at Cold Ash aforesaid,

**And also** all outhouses etc.,

**And** the revocations etc.,

By such apt and fit names, descriptions, and quantities and qualities of Land and other particulars, and in such manner and form as should be advised and thought fit for the purpose.

Declaration that the said *fine*, or *fines* should enure and that the conuzes or conuzees thereof should stand possessed of the said hereditaments with their appurtenances ; to the uses, etc., thereafter declared concerning the same viz :—

As to for and exciting all such, and so much of the said messuages, or tenements, lands, hereditaments and premises as were then in the occupation of the said ADAM HIGGS.

To the use of the said ADAM HIGGS and MARY, his wife, for and during the term of their natural lives, and the life of the longer liver of them.

And as for and exciting all such, and so much of the said messuages, or tenements, lands, hereditaments and premises thereinbefore mentioned and described.

And also from and after the decease of the survivor of them the said ADAM HIGGS and MARY, his wife.

As to, for and concerning all such and so much of the said messuages, or tenements, land and hereditaments and premises as were then in the occupation of the said ADAM HIGGS.





To the use of such person, or persons, upon such trusts and to and for such ends, intents and purposes and with, under and subject to such powers, provisions, limitations, charges, declarations and agreements as the said SAMPSON HIGGS should by any Deed or Instrument in writing, with or without power of revocation, or by his last Will and Testament in writing or by Codicil or Codicils thereto appoint same in default thereof, and subject thereto. To the uses of the said SAMPSON HIGGS and his assigns for his life.

Remainder to the use of the said JOSHUA COOKE and his heirs, during the life of the said SAMPSON HIGGS.

In trust nevertheless for the said SAMPSON HIGGS, and his assigns Remainder to the use of the said SAMPSON HIGGS, his heirs and assigns for ever.

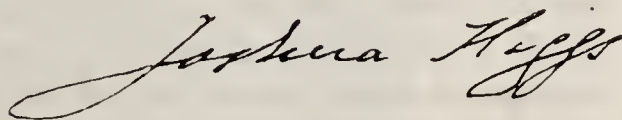
**Executed** by all Parties and attested.

Trinity Term 45. GEORGE III.

Chirograph of Fine between JOSHUA COOKE, Pet., and BENJAMIN ALDRIDGE and CHARITY his wife to "deforcts of".

Three messuages, 4 shops, 6 Outhouses, 2 Gardens, 1 acre of land, 5 acres of meadow, 5 acres of pasture with the appurtenances in Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham.

*Note.*—This was to show all who may have thought they had a special interest in the property that *the entailment was cut off* by the parties whose names are attached.



of Davies Street, Berkeley Square, London W., and of Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks (Eldest son of SAMPSON HIGGS).

SAMPSON (or SAMPSON) HIGGS, the only surviving, and second son of ADAM HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, by MARY LAWRENCE his wife, was born in 1762, in the second year of the reign of King George III. He was baptized at Thatcham Parish Church on 27 June in that year. As has been shown in the abstract given of the deed, dated 17 May, 1805, relating to his grandfather JAMES HIGGS's property at Cold Ash, he succeeded thereto, and though carrying on the old coopering and bent ware business of his father and grandfather, and with little doubt his great-grandfather ROGER HIGGS, he turned his attention more to general farming. Like his father ADAM HIGGS he was a strong Dissenter, and, as seen in a previous chapter, his name appears as a witness to the Meeting House Certificate which licensed the house of Mrs. HANNAH BAILY (formerly Miss HANNAH GOODAY, and sister of Mr. JOHN GOODAY of Woolhampton, Co. Berks, who was the first husband of CHARITY HIGGS, SAMPSON HIGGS's aunt)—which house was then in the possession of Mr. JOHN BARFIELD of Thatcham—on 17 August, 1803, for Divine Worship by Protestant Dissenters, and also in connection with the licensing of a special building erected in Thatcham for this purpose, the following year. He was also instrumental in opening small Independent Chapels in Woolhampton and Bucklebury, and his life and character had a great influence for good upon the life of a young farmer named MORETON, who later devoted his life to the Ministry and became Minister at Bucklebury Chapel. Prior to the licensing of Mrs. HANNAH BAILY's house, he had renewed the license taken out by his father in 1769 for Divine Worship by Protestant Dissenters in connection with his home at Cold Ash, and it is related that





upon one occasion, on going to meet a minister who had been engaged to preach, the roads became flooded by a heavy rain-storm, and SAMSON\* took the minister upon his back through the water that he might not have to deliver his sermon in wet clothes.

At the age of twenty-seven years he married, on 17 October, 1789, at Oare Chapel-of-Ease, in the adjoining parish of Chieveley, Co. Berks (formerly in the parish of Hampstead Norreys), ANN, the daughter of GEORGE CORDEROY of Thatcham by MARTHA, daughter of WILLIAM NORTHWAY, his wife. ANN was then twenty-two years of age, having been born in 1767, and baptized at Thatcham Parish Church on 15 February that year. Her father GEORGE CORDEROY was son of GEORGE and SARAH CORDEROY of Chieveley (who were related to a family named DOUGLAS of Barkham, near Reading), whilst her mother was, as stated, a daughter of WILLIAM NORTHWAY of Thatcham, who was churchwarden there in 1750. Her uncle WILLIAM NORTHWAY, of Thatcham and of Stepney, Co. Middlesex, was also churchwarden at the time of his death in 1820, when by his will dated 25 November, 1820, he gave "£500, Three per cents upon trust, to divide one moiety of the dividends thereof equally amongst the oldest single poor men of Thatcham, and to lay out the remaining moiety in the purchase of bread, and to distribute the same to the poor on St. Thomas' Day yearly for ever".† He likewise left her £500. SAMPSON HIGGS's young wife was of ancient and honourable lineage on both sides. The CORDEROYS, CORDERAYS, CORDERYS, etc. (for the name is found spelt in so many different ways) claimed descent from a Norman knight, who gained this patronymic from his close attendance upon the Conqueror, the name originally being "Cœur-de-Roi" (Heart of the king), and the crest in use by this family to this day is a human heart surmounted by a ducal coronet. The family was settled at Chute in Wiltshire at an early date, though other branches settled in various places throughout Berkshire, and Oxfordshire, and the HIGGS family has had many alliances with this old Norman house in the course of centuries. The earliest of the name found in the Thatcham records is THOMAS CORDRAY, who was one of the jurors at the Inquisition‡ taken on the death of SIR JOHN DE LYSLE in 1408. The NORTHWAYS were an old family in the district, and for many generations their names appear as churchwardens and in local deeds. Apparently the first of the family in Thatcham was OSWELL NORTHWAY, who was churchwarden in 1625, unless "NORTHLEGH"§ was an original form of the name, when we find one WILLIELMUM NORTHLEGH mentioned in connection with the Conveyance of Coltrop Manor in 1349. In a Thatcham deed dated 22 January, 1627 (2 Charles I), OSWELL NORTHWAYE is mentioned as "Among the eleven most substantial men of the parish".||

By ANN CORDEROY, his wife, SAMSON HIGGS had five sons and nine daughters, as follows :

1. JAMES, born 25 December, 1791. He died in infancy and was buried in Thatcham Churchyard.
2. JOSHUA, born 3 February, 1793, and baptized at Goring Chapel, near South Stoke, Oxon. He married 23 December, 1815, at Newington Church, London, MARY ANN, the second daughter of GEORGE CORDEROY, then aged 18, of Lambeth, London (by MARY NEWBERRY his wife). JOSHUA HIGGS left Cold Ash and settled in London, where he became engaged in the building trade, and carried on a very successful business until his death 10 August, 1866, when he was buried in Newbury Cemetery, Berks. By his wife MARY ANN he had three sons and eight daughters, namely :

\* 'Life of WILLIAM HIGGS of Lambeth,' by SARAH NASH HIGGS, fo. 10, privately printed in 1890 by Alabaster, Passmore & Sons, Fann Street, E.C.

† 'Thatcham, Berks, and its Manors,' by SAMUEL BARFIELD, Appendix to Book III, fo. 159.

‡ Inquisitions Post Mortem, 9 Henry IV, No. 49.

§ Public Record Office Feet of Fines, Berks, 22 and 23 Edward III (found bound in No. 22), 1b.

|| 'Thatcham, Berks, and its Manors', by SAMUEL BARFIELD, fo. 223.





1. JOSHUA, born 17 April, 1820. He married ANN, daughter of WILLIAM WHITE, of Oxford Street, London, 20 January, 1843, at Mary-le-bone Parish Church, and by her had six sons and six daughters. This JOSHUA HIGGS was an architect and surveyor, and with his family settled in Melbourne, Australia, in 1852, finally settling in Launceston, Tasmania, where he died 19 September, 1897, and was buried in Launceston Cemetery. From him are descended a large family of HIGGSES in this part of the British Empire (*vide* Chapter XIV).
2. GEORGE CORDEROY HIGGS, born 20 January, 1831. (He died in infancy.)



MARIA, DAUGHTER OF JOSHUA HIGGS, GENTLEMAN, OF "THE RETREAT", COLD ASH, CO. BERKS, AND WIFE OF JOHN HOPSON, GENTLEMAN, OF NEWBURY, BORN 9 JANUARY, 1828 (*seated*); WITH HER SISTER (*standing*) MATILDA (DAUGHTER OF JOSHUA HIGGS AND WIFE OF EZRA, SON OF JOHN PRISMALL OF FAIROAK, KINGSCLEERE, CO. HANTS), BORN 3 MAY, 1833; SHE AND HER HUSBAND EMIGRATED, SETTLING AT EAST STRACHAN, TASMANIA.

[From an oil painting owned by ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS of Warden, Corkran Road, Surbiton-on-Thames.]

3. JOSEPH, born 7 May, 1838, and died without issue at Newbury, Co. Berks, where he was buried in 1864, aged 26.
- (1) MARY ANN, born 3 November, 1816. She died in infancy and was buried in Lambeth Churchyard, London.
- (2) ANN, born 29 September, 1818. She also died in infancy and was buried in Lambeth Churchyard.
- (3) MARY CORDEROY, born 1 August, 1824. She died 8 June, 1841, and was buried in St. George's Church burial ground, Bayswater, London.
- (4) MARIA, born 9 January, 1828. She married JOHN HOPSON\* of Newbury (a

\* One JOSEPH HOPSON was Mayor of Newbury in 1882.





descendant of JOHN HOPSON who witnessed her great-great-grandfather JAMES HIGGS's will in 1763, *vide* Chapter XII) 2 June, 1858, at Eccleston Square Chapel in Pimlico, London. She died at Newbury 29 March, 1926. She was for many years Secretary of the Newbury Girls' British School.

- (5) ELLEN, born 22 September, 1829. She died in infancy, and was buried in St. George's Church burial ground at Bayswater, London.
- (6) MATILDA, born 3 May, 1833. She married EZRA, son of JOHN PRISMALL of Fair Oak, Kingsclere, Co. Hants, 2 June, 1858, at Eccleston Square Chapel, Pimlico, London. They emigrated to East Strachan, Tasmania.
- (7) ESTHER, born 26 April, 1836. She married JOHN, son of SIMON GODDARD, of Boxford and Cold Ash, Thatcham, Co. Berks. As previously noted, the GODDARD family had been established in the parish of Thatcham for over three hundred years before this marriage, and this JOHN GODDARD was, with little doubt, a descendant of the JOHN GODDARD the tenant of Crookham Manor in 1549. *Vide* Part II, GODDARD Family.
- (8) SARAH, born 22 December, 1839. She married JOHN, son of JAMES ADNAMS of Cold Ash, in Thatcham, 24 November, 1865. She died 26 November, 1874.

*Note.*—One SARAH ADNAMS, who died 29 March, 1789, was buried in the old churchyard at Newbury. She was aged 59.

It may be also of interest\* to note here that Mr. JOSEPH ADNAMS, together with Messrs. WILLIAM COWDEROY, JOHN GODDARD, WILLIAM GODDARD, WILLIAM NORTHWAY, JAMES LAWRENCE and forty-two others met at the Crown Inn, Thatcham, on 21 July, 1803, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best plan of raising and establishing a Volunteer Corps of Cavalry in view of possible invasion. This was a little more than two years prior to the great Battle of Trafalgar and Nelson's brilliant victory (21 October, 1805).

In August, 1896, one GEORGE ADNAMS retired as a trustee of the Independent Chapel at Thatcham, and among the names of new trustees then appointed, that of ALFRED ADNAMS appears.

3. CALEB HIGGS of Cold Ash (by Henwick), Parish of Thatcham, was born 12 January, 1795, the account of whose life and family we deal with in our next chapter.
4. GEORGE HIGGS, who was born at Thatcham 21 May, 1796, died in infancy, and was buried in Thatcham Churchyard 6 January, 1797.
5. CORNELIUS HIGGS, born at Thatcham 15 October, 1805, likewise died in infancy, and was buried in the family grave in Thatcham Churchyard 8 January the following year.
- (1) MARTHA, the eldest daughter of SAMSON and ANN HIGGS, was born at Thatcham 17 August, 1790. She married JAMES ROADS (or RHODES)—register entry given as ROADS—24 December, 1813, in Thatcham Parish Church. This was during the incumbency of the Rev. JOSEPH LOTHIAN (1804–1842). She died 8 March, 1856, aged 66.
- (2) MARY, their second daughter, was born 1 July, 1797. She married SAMUEL FORD, of Reading, Co. Berks. A Dr. SYMON FORD† was Vicar of St. Lawrence Church, Reading, in 1651, and resigned in 1659. He was son of RICHARD FORD of East Ogwell, Co. Devon. By the WORTHS, his mother's family, he was descended from the founder of Wadham College, Oxford. He joined the Puritan Party in 1641. He married Mistress ANNE THACKHAM of St. Mary's, Reading, and it may be that it was from this marriage that the husband of MARY HIGGS was descended. Dr. FORD was accounted "an able scholar, an elegant Latin poet, and a preacher of great eminence".
- (3) PATIENCE, their third daughter, was born 18 October, 1798. She married a Mr. HOBSON of Walthamstow, in the county of Essex, and it is possible that this family of HOBSON was related to the HOBSONS of Newbury.

"In 1792,‡ when the clothing industry was rapidly being extinguished in Newbury, the Weavers' Company, in order, if possible, to revive the manufacture, issued an advertisement setting forth that they had agreed to disannul their powers and right of settling the price which any person in the trade should give for

\* *Vide* 'Thatcham, Berks, and its Manors', by SAMUEL BARFIELD, vol. i, fos. 67 and 68.

† *Vide* 'History of St. Lawrence, Reading,' by Rev. CHARLES KERRY, fo. 221.

‡ 'History of Newbury, Berks,' by WALTER MONEY, F.S.A., fo. 243.





making any kind of goods and giving free liberty to strangers to come into the town and to manufacture silks, muslins, cottons, linen, worsted, etc., without any interference from the Company of Weavers. The announcement concludes with the following paragraph:

“ ‘Newbury is a town well supplied with water, and an extraordinary good market to supply its inhabitants with every accommodation that can make life comfortable, and it is well situated to carry on an extensive trade, having an easy conveyance to and from London by the River Kennet.

“ ‘THOMAS HOBSON } Wardens.’ ”  
 “ ‘SAMUEL HIGGS }

Who SAMUEL HIGGS was we do not know. The association of the two families in this instance is decidedly interesting.

PATIENCE HOBSON (*née* HIGGS) died of tuberculosis at Walthamstow, Co. Essex, and was buried in Walthamstow Chapel burial ground. By her husband she had eight children, all of whom emigrated.

- (4) PRUDENCE CORDEROY, the fourth daughter of SAMSON and ANN HIGGS, was born at Thatcham 24 April, 1801. She spent much time at Walthamstow nursing her sister and contracted the same complaint, dying a spinster at Thatcham 10 November, 1833, aged 32, and her remains were laid to rest in the family grave in Thatcham Churchyard November 20.
- (5) ANN, the fifth daughter, was born 8 September, 1802. She died in infancy, and was buried in the churchyard at Thatcham 9 August, 1803.
- (6) ORPAH, the sixth daughter, likewise died in infancy. She was born 11 July, 1804, and buried 5 November in that year at Thatcham.
- (7) ESTHER, the seventh daughter, only lived one month. She was born 9 July, 1808, and was buried in the family grave 26 August that year.
- (8) HEPHIZBAH, their eighth daughter, was born at Thatcham 26 February, 1811. She died of tuberculosis when 25 years of age, 6 March, 1836, and was buried in the family grave.
- (9) DORCAS ANN was their youngest daughter, born to them 14 June, 1814. She, however, died in infancy, and was buried at Thatcham.

SAMSON HIGGS died at Thatcham on 14 April, 1829, aged sixty-seven years, and was buried on 25 April. His wife ANN survived him some eight or nine years, and died at Walthamstow, Co. Essex, whilst on a visit to their daughter PATIENCE, about 1837 or '38, and was buried in the Congregational Chapel burial ground there.

The following lines upon the life of SAMSON HIGGS, written by his nephew, EDWARD CORDEROY, shortly after his death, testify to the character of this godly man, who had lived his life in Thatcham, in the home of his forefathers, and was greatly respected throughout the district:

“ He loved and revered God’s Word,  
 He made it his rule and his guide,  
 He rejoiced in his crucified Lord,  
 For he felt, for him He had died.  
 In death ‘ Jesus Christ ’ was his theme,  
 To be with Him was all he desired,  
 He left this low earth’s busy scene  
 And saying—‘ I’m happy ’—expired ! ”

When SAMSON HIGGS’s last words declared that he was *HAPPY*, that was no myth, for he had surely experienced very much sorrow during his forty years of married life. Three little sons and four infant daughters had died shortly after birth, and all the anxiety in each instance had terminated in grief and expense. Even the joy in the usual celebration of the Silver Wedding Day, on 17 October, 1814, must have been marred

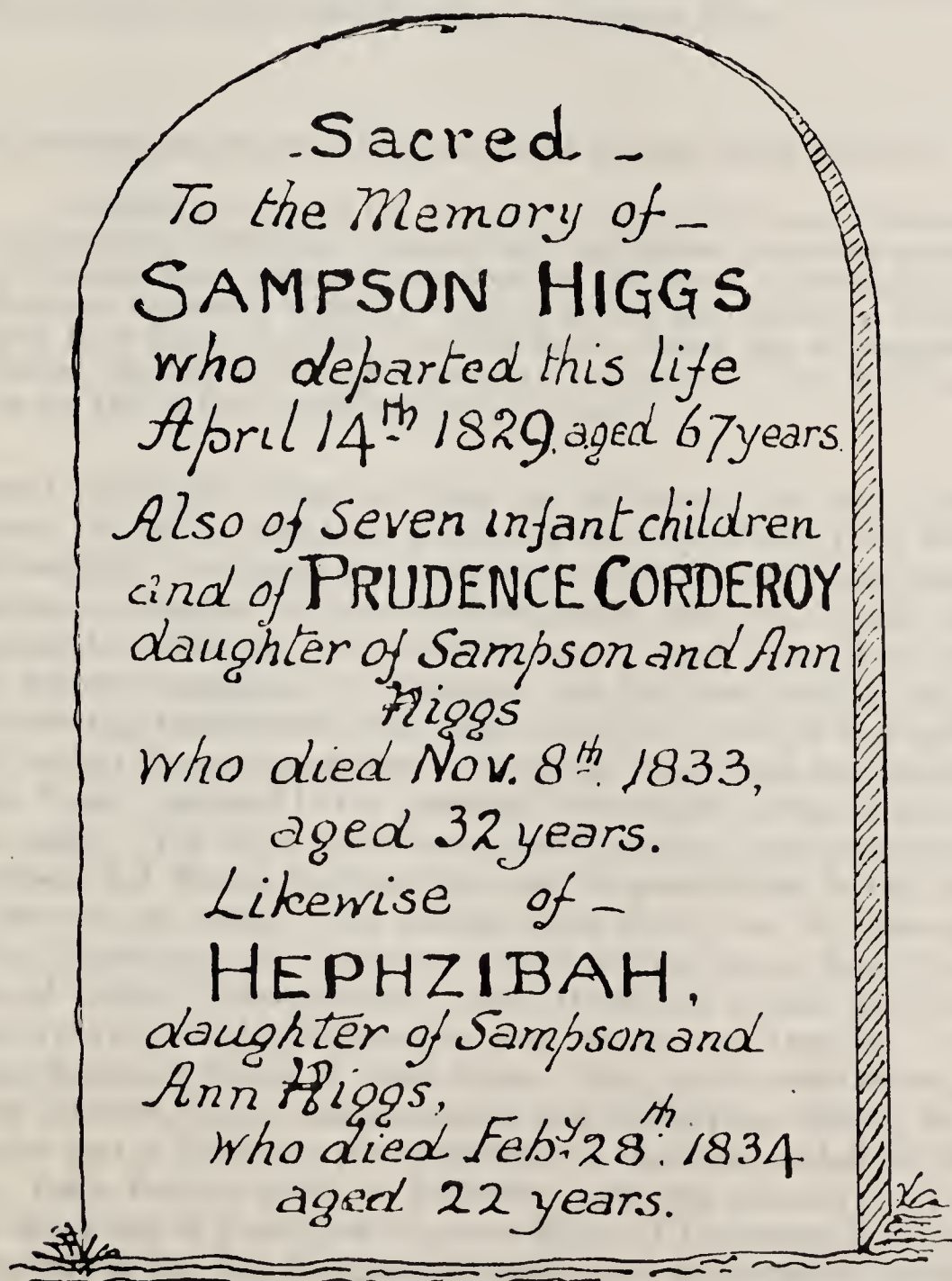




*Samson Higgs*

*Ann Northway  
Corderoy Higgs*

THE SIGNATURES OF SAMSON HIGGS AND HIS WIFE ANN.



GRAVE STONE N.W. CORNER,  
near Church, in THATCHAM CH. YD.





by the thought of the little daughter DORCAS, the last child born to SAMSON and ANN HIGGS, whom they had laid to rest in the family grave in the old churchyard on 14 June in that year.

"Why," we are prompted to ask, did all that suffering and sorrow come to SAMSON HIGGS and ANN his wife?

Why all that pain and anguish as well as expense, seemingly all to no purpose?

There is a reason for all bodily and mental suffering and anguish which comes in life.

Only those who have suffered (and especially in the case of particular suffering) can enter into the sorrows of others, and be—as SAMSON and ANN HIGGS were—of any real help and comfort to such, and only in the same measure as the real meaning of grief, sorrow or anguish, is understood by experience, is a like knowledge of happiness enjoyed!

So SAMSON HIGGS's last words "I'm happy" are a true vision to us of the joy that he was realizing as he passed from a world of sorrow to that Life on the other side of the veil about which, with our mortal vision, we know so little.

*The following advertisement appeared in the London 'Daily Times' of 2 June, 1837:*

"HEIR-AT-LAW: If the heir-at-law of JOHN HIGGS of Silchester in the County of Southampton, gentleman, deceased, will apply either personally or by letter, post paid, to GEORGE MAULE, Esquire, Secretary for the affairs of Her Majesty's Treasury, at the Treasury Chambers, Whitehall, London, he may hear something to his advantage. The said JOHN HIGGS is supposed to have been a *Parish Boy at Bradfield*, in the County of Berks. He died at Silchester aforesaid in the month of June, 1799, and was buried there on the 12th of that month aged about 66 years."

JOSHUA HIGGS, the eldest surviving son of SAMSON and ANN HIGGS of Cold Ash, Thatcham, Co. Berks, traced the connection with the above JOHN HIGGS of Silchester "*within one link*" according to a letter received by the writer from Mrs. MARIA HOPSON of Newbury, a daughter of JOSHUA HIGGS, under date of 21 April, 1899, but failed in establishing his claim to JOHN HIGGS's estate. JOHN HIGGS held land on the site of the old Roman encampment at Silchester, not far from Reading in Berkshire, where many interesting remains have been since uncovered. Four or five miles from Silchester was the ancient *Roman encampment of Vindomis*, from which the historical house known as "The Vyne", situated in the parish of Sherborne St. John, in the county of Hants, took its name. The Vyne, in the seventeenth century, was owned by LORD SANDYS; his grandson, Col. HENRY SANDYS, succeeded his grandfather in this estate, and it was JANE, sister of the colonel, who married JOHN HIGGS, son of THOMAS and ELIZABETH HIGGS of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester, whilst another sister, MARY,\* married RICHARD ATKYNS of Tuffley, Gloucestershire. JOHN HIGGS had a sister JOAN, who married one THOMAS ATKYNS, who had by her two sons, HENRY and THOMAS. It is an interesting fact that NICHOLAS HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon, by his wife MARY, the daughter of GRIFFITH BARTON, Esqre., had a daughter who married one HENRY ATKYNS or ATKINS. She was an aunt of NICHOLAS HIGGS the elder of Thatcham, and of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS. JOHN HIGGS's estate at Silchester went into Chancery. It is quite possible that he was a son of JAMES and HANNAH HIGGS of Thatcham, having been born about 1733, but how it was that he became a charge upon the parish of Bradfield is a mystery. Bradfield is no great distance from Thatcham, and there was a family of HIGGS settled at an early date in that village. It may be interesting to give a few notes of HIGGS marriages in this parsh between 1559 and 1812:

\* 'History of the Vyne in Hampshire,' by Chaloner W. Chute, fo. 65.





1572. 8 May. WILLIAM HIGGS and ALICE COOPER.  
1573. 6 July JOHN HIGGS and ANNE COOPER.  
1589. 1 June. URSULA HIGGS and PAUL CARTER.  
1589. 1 Mar. ELIZABETH HIGGS and JOHN WYLLDER.  
1630. 7 July THOMAS HIGGS and ELIZABETH LYFORD.  
1636. — BARTHOLOMEW HIGGS and ANNE ILSLIE.  
1776. 18 Mar. ANN HIGGS and RICHARD PARSONS of Hampstead Norris.  
1793. 18 Nov. MARY HIGGS and GEORGE WISE.  
1803. 13 Oct. HENRY HIGGS and ELIZABETH PALMER.

See also Part II, "Proceedings in Chancery", HIGGS *versus* HIGGS, 1591 (34 Eliz.).

Other interesting entries from the Bradfield registers are the marriages there recorded of OSWELL NORTHWAY (of Thatcham) to JOANE SMYTH on 11 June, 1604, and WILLIAM COGGS to ELIZABETH JUSTICE on 20 April, 1685, in all probability the parents of HANNAH COGGS, who became the wife of JAMES HIGGS of Thatcham, and herein may be found the reason for the aforesaid JOHN HIGGS going to Bradfield to some relative there, though it does not explain how it was he became a charge upon the parish. ISAAC COGGS, no doubt from Thatcham, also married BETTY BLAKE at Bradfield on 2 December, 1765.









JOSHUA HIGGS, GENTLEMAN, OF COLD ASH IN THE PARISH OF THATCHAM, CO. BERKS, AND  
OF DAVIS STREET, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W., 1793-1866.

*Joshua Higgs*





## CHAPTER VII

## Joshua and Caleb Higgs of Cold Ash

WITH the advent of agricultural machinery, there was little demand for the old wooden seed lips and other farm implements which had formed a good portion of the HIGGS's business as coopers and turners in Thatcham, and this trade—which had flourished in the place from as early as 1408—began to wane.

SAMSON HIGGS had given his attention more to farming during his lifetime, and his sons, JOSHUA and CALEB, realizing that there were good opportunities for young men in London, decided to try their fortune in the great Metropolis. So, some ten years or so prior to their father's decease, they left Thatcham and travelled to London, either by way of the river Kennet from Newbury, and then down the Thames by water, or, what is more probable, by the greatly improved service in mail coaches which had taken place shortly before this time, some thirty passing through the town of Thatcham daily, which made this place quite a busy coaching centre.

The modern railway traveller will scarcely believe the difficulties and dangers which had to be encountered by our ancestors in making a journey between one part of the country and another. The old roads in the vicinity of Newbury—before they became turnpike roads—were indeed rough. The main road from Newbury to London originally left the line of the present turnpike road at the point where Shaw Crescent now commences, and, crossing a ford of the river Lamborne at Shaw, pursued its course by way of Clay Hill to Thatcham Gate, passing close by Cold Ash Common and Henwick.

In August, 1752, ten years before *the Manchester "Flying Coach"* was started, an enterprising firm in Newbury established a vehicle of this description which performed the journey from Newbury to London in twelve hours, or about  $4\frac{3}{4}$  miles per hour. The original announcement runs as follows :

" Newbury Four Wheel'd Stage Chaise. Made with Steel Springs, to carry Four Passengers at Ten Shillings each to or from London.

" Sets out from the White Hart Inn, in Newbury, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Six o'clock in the Morning to the Saracen's Head, Snow Hill ; and returns from thence on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays ; and will be at their Quarters each Evening by Six.

" Changes horses at Thomas Talmadge's, the Pelican at Twyford and at Colnbrook.

" Places taken at the White Hart and Saracen's Head, at Five Shillings Entrance ; each Passenger to be allowed eight Pounds Weight. Small parcels taken in at the above Houses, and carefully delivered.

" *N.B.*—No Money, Plate, Jewels or Writings lost to be made good unless entered and paid for as such.

" The said Chaise will set out from Newbury on Monday, the second of October.

" Performed by JOHN CLARK & Co.

" *Note also :* There are Road Waggons sent out from Newbury to the Saracen's Head Snow Hill on Mondays and Wednesdays and returns Thursdays and Saturdays ; where Gentlemen may depend upon having their Baggage taken great care of. If any Incivilities are offer'd by the Drivers, the Proprietors would take it kind to be acquainted therewith at Newbury".

These " flying coaches " were the precursors of Palmer's new mail coaches in 1784.







The first mail coach, in accordance with Mr. PALMER's plan, was one from London to Bristol, which started at eight in the morning on 8 August, 1784, and, passing through Newbury, reached its destination at eleven at night. This system of rapid mail coaches introduced by Mr. PALMER lasted up to the days of railways.



*Caleb Higgs*

CALEB HIGGS OF MITCHAM LANE, PARISH OF STREATHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF SURREY, FORMERLY OF LAMBETH IN THE SAME COUNTY AND OF COLD ASH, PARISH OF THATCHAM, CO. BERKS, GENTLEMAN AND YEOMAN (1795-1876).

JOSHUA and CALEB HIGGS, upon arriving in London, no doubt made a bee-line to their uncle GEORGE CORDEROY's home in Lambeth, and with him and his family attended the old Wesleyan Chapel, near Marshgate, in that parish.





It was not long before JOSHUA became engaged to his cousin, MARY ANN, the second daughter of GEORGE CORDEROY and MARY DOWNING (*née* NEWBERRY) his wife, who was then a girl of about seventeen years of age, and on 23 December, 1815, he was married to her at Newington Church. After the first three or four years in Lambeth JOSHUA moved to Bayswater, in the west of London, where he soon built up a fine business as a builder and contractor, eventually living in Davis Street, Berkeley Square, and his family we have recorded in the previous chapter.

It would seem that CALEB HIGGS made some attempt to carry on a coopering business in Lambeth soon after his arrival in London. In this, however, he was not very successful, and seeing a good opportunity to open up a milk supply business in this locality, he gave his whole attention to this and dairy farming, and founded a business which has grown



into a very big concern in the twentieth century. To visualize what Lambeth was at this time is not easy. It was decidedly rural on this the Surrey bank of the river, and practically the only portion now remaining, much as it appeared then, is the old Parish Church, with the still more ancient Archbishop's Palace adjoining. The site where St. Thomas's Hospital now stands was partly occupied by the ship-building yards of Mr. RICHARD NASH, and the illustration showing Lambeth Walk,\* being another portion of the site, will greatly help in this matter. There was no Lambeth bridge spanning the river, access from the Surrey side to Middlesex being by the old horse-ferry, whilst the land stretching up the river from that point now occupied by the extensive potteries of *Messrs. Doulton & Co.* was more or less open, with a number of cottages, a small inn, and other small business premises spread over the district. What a change has since taken place! In 1862 the old horse-ferry was replaced by a suspension bridge, having a total length of 1040 ft. and erected

\* From a coloured sketch owned by F. G. CHRISTMAS, Esq., and kindly loaned for reproduction in this work.







at a cost of £40,000. Its upkeep was assisted by means of a toll. That bridge has since seen its day of usefulness, and has been replaced by a new one further up the river.



*Sarah Higgs*

SARAH, WIFE OF CALEB HIGGS OF MITCHAM, PARISH OF STREATHAM, IN THE COUNTY OF SURREY, AND DAUGHTER OF RICHARD AND SARAH NASH OF LAMBETH, CO. SURREY (1793-1879).

In 1868 that fine block of buildings known as St. Thomas's Hospital was commenced, upon the site of *Messrs. Richard Nash & Sons' shipbuilding yards*, from the designs of the late PERCIVAL CURREY, Esqre., a well-known London architect, and finished in 1871,





being erected by WILLIAM HIGGS, the third son of CALEB HIGGS, who became a *Life Governor of that Institution*.

One by one the old cottages disappeared, new buildings sprang up, including the famous potteries of *Messrs. Doulton & Co.*, the embankment was built, the road along the river front was widened and paved, and the service of tram-cars between Vauxhall and Westminster Bridge brought into operation.

Mr. RICHARD NASH had settled in Lambeth from Rotherhithe, and established a successful ship and barge-building business on the River Thames at this point. When at Rotherhithe he was a close friend of Mr. JOHN RANDALL, the well-known shipbuilder, and his son JOHN, and in all probability RICHARD NASH married JOHN RANDALL the elder's daughter SARAH, who was born in 1759. Whilst in that locality RICHARD NASH was a member of the old Maze Pond Baptist Church, but on settling in Lambeth he and his family attended the Wesleyan Chapel, and became great supporters of that community. It was therefore in that way that CALEB HIGGS met SARAH, the eldest daughter of RICHARD and SARAH NASH (who had been born to them 5 September, 1793), and she became his wife 17 October, 1819, when about twenty-six years of age. They made their first home in Ferry Street, Lambeth, just opposite to the old Parish Church and the ancient palace of the Archbishops of Canterbury. It looked out over the river banks and the old horse-ferry and from thence up the river towards Vauxhall and the famous fashionable resort known as "Vauxhall Gardens", which existed as such until 1859. Whilst at Lambeth it is interesting to relate that CALEB HIGGS came into association with HENRY DOULTON, the founder of the well-known potteries, and father of Sir HENRY. At that time HENRY DOULTON was a comparatively poor man, and lived not far from CALEB and SARAH HIGGS, and as neither he nor CALEB HIGGS had work enough to keep a horse and cart going all the time, they shared this necessity between them in the commencement of their businesses.

A few notes as to the NASH family and its alliances in marriage will not be out of place here, as so many intermarriages have taken place between the families of CORDEROY, CHARLTON, HIGGS, MILLER and NASH. By his wife SARAH, RICHARD NASH had two sons and six daughters. RICHARD, the elder son, was born 23 April, 1788, and died 4 December, 1861, being buried in Norwood cemetery. He married ESTHER MARTHA (born 11 January, 1792, died 27 October, 1858), the eldest daughter of GEORGE and MARY CORDEROY of Lambeth, at the parish church 11 January, 1818, by whom he had three daughters co-heirs. He was an earnest worker in connection with the old Methodist (Wesleyan) Chapel, near Marshgate, Lambeth, as was his brother JAMES RANDALL NASH (born 5 July, 1791), who married SARAH WILD GABRIEL, daughter of THOMAS GABRIEL, Esqre., of Brixton, in the county of Surrey (then a country district), and sister of SIR THOMAS GABRIEL, Baronet, who was Lord Mayor of London 1866-1867. JAMES RANDALL NASH died 24 February, 1860. The eldest daughter, SARAH, as we have seen, married CALEB HIGGS; the second daughter, REBECCA, born 22 September, 1795, married ROBERT MILLER, a captain in the mercantile marine (and son of Capt. WILLIAM MILLER of Ramsgate, Co. Kent), who died at Golden Grove on the Island of Tobago in the West Indies, 9 April, 1818. She afterwards married (8 November, 1823) a farmer named JOHN EDWARDS, of Shallbourne, in the County of Berks. She died 25 April, 1847, and was buried in the Lambeth Chapel burial ground. The third daughter, MARIA ANN, married a man named WILLIAM CHILDS; the next daughter, MARTHA MALYN, became the wife of a RICHARD YOUNG; ELIZABETH, the fifth daughter (born 2 March, 1785), married ROBERT MARSHALL, who was with the British Fleet at the Battle of Cape La Hague ("The Glorious First of June, 1794"), and served as a "powder monkey", being quite a lad. ANN was RICHARD NASH's youngest child. She married GEORGE LIGHT. Such was the family of RICHARD and SARAH NASH, a family







highly respected and esteemed in the parish of Lambeth. RICHARD NASH's grandson, ROBERT MILLER, later entered the barge-building and lighterman's business, joining his two uncles RICHARD and JAMES RANDALL NASH, and the firm of NASH & MILLER moved to new premises further up the river at Battersea, upon their old site at Lambeth being taken for the building of St. Thomas's Hospital in 1868, and has continued in business up to the twentieth century under that name.

Leaving Lambeth about 1823 CALEB and SARAH HIGGS settled at Walworth, which was then a suburb of the rapidly developing City of Greater London, and it was along the main thoroughfare to Walworth that many Members of Parliament resided in



NASH AND MILLER'S BARGE AND BOAT BUILDING PREMISES.

beautiful homes, whose gardens were bounded by green fields and rich pastures. Walworth was therefore then an ideal location for a dairy herd and the building up of a dairy-supply business. What a change took place as London grew! It is difficult to realize to-day that Lambeth, Walworth, Kennington, Stockwell, Clapham and Brixton were country districts with aristocratic settlements and prosperous farms. After some years in Walworth they eventually settled at Furzedown Farm, Mitcham, in the county of Surrey (to-day all built over), where they resided for the rest of their lives. At one time CALEB HIGGS leased the whole of the great southern slope, which now forms a part of Norwood Cemetery—Mr. THOMAS PRIOR being his bailiff in charge at that time—for the grazing of his dairy herds, in addition to his dairy farm at Mitcham. Strange to relate, that very pasture land was taken later for that well-known burial ground, and upon the top of the hill in 1876 CALEB HIGGS's remains were laid to rest. He died 27 June,



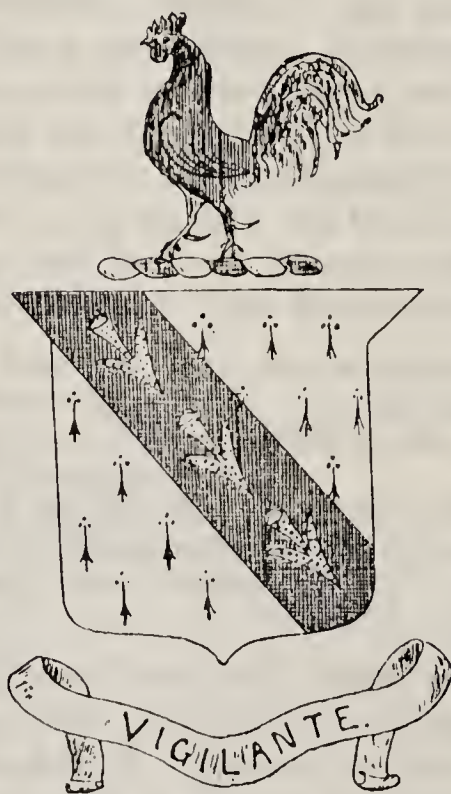


# PEDIGREE OF BLAND OF LONG BUCKLY, CO. NORTHAMPTON

WILLIAM BLAND = ..... WILLIAM KING = A Dutch Lady  
 of Long Buckly (probably son of TIMMS BLAND) living 1727 Woolen Manu- facturer. PAINSWICK CO. GLOSTER name unknown brought from HOLLAND aged 2 DIED C. 1797

1st  
Wife  
name  
unknown.

He was  
born  
at  
LONG  
BUCKLY  
31 OCT.  
1772



ING,  
CO.  
BERKS  
He  
died  
there  
11 DEC  
1836

2ndly MISS KING  
She was  
born at  
PAINSWICK.  
27. JULY.  
1775.  
died at  
NEW CROSS  
1858.  
She had  
2 brothers  
& 2 sisters.

FROM AN OLD WOODCUT  
BELONGING TO THE REV. S. K. BLAND  
FORMERLY OWNED BY HIS HALF BROTHER  
WILLIAM BLAND

WILLIAM  
BLAND born 1804

3  
CHILDREN  
WHO DIED  
IN INFANCY

REV. SAMUEL KING BLAND  
born 26 JULY 1822  
in LONDON  
HE MARRIED 3 TIMES  
AND LEFT 13 CHILDREN

SARAH NASH  
HIGGS d. of  
CALEB HIGGS  
born 22 JULY 1825  
died 2 DEC. 1853  
(1st. Wife)

SAMUEL BLAND  
settled in  
ST. LOUIS,  
MISSOURI.

CALEB BLAND. BLAND  
settled in : born 1818 at  
ST. LOUIS MISS. SWANSEA  
d. WEBSTER bur. 6 Oct. 1923  
GROVES M. at PALGRAVE  
18 JUNE NORFOLK.  
1923

Miss SARAH DAY  
Note: John Bland  
was one of the  
founders of the  
firm of WELCH & CO.  
& a member of LLOYD'S

JAMES A. BLAND  
Wireless Operator  
U.S.S. CUSHING  
during the  
WORLD WAR

BERNARD DAY EDWARD, W.  
BLAND BLAND of  
WITH FIRST ARMY CORPS PAIGNTON  
R. A. F. during WORLD WAR DEVON





in that year. His wife SARAH survived him just three years, and her remains were likewise laid to rest with those of her husband on the top of that grassy slope now completely covered with graves, and where so many of their descendants and relatives have been subsequently interred. SARAH HIGGS died 4 June, 1879.

CALEB HIGGS was a warm-hearted, devout and generous man, and did much in conjunction with his bailiff—Mr. THOMAS PRIOR—to further the Nonconformist cause, then still meeting in the little hut which had been erected for the purpose in 1792 in Greyhound Lane, Streatham Common. Though somewhat blunt, and less polished in manner to his brother JOSHUA, he was a man of sterling character. Both he and his wife SARAH were great admirers of the powerful Nonconformist preacher of that day, CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON, and in 1856 they were received into membership at Park Street Baptist Church, of which SPURGEON was then minister. They were up to this time members of the church now known as Regent Street Chapel, Lambeth. The minister of that church was also a schoolmaster, and conducted a little school for boys in the vestry of the chapel, and there it was in their early life that several of their sons started their education, being sent later to Rodney House School in Walworth.

CALEB and SARAH HIGGS had six sons and three daughters, namely, CALEB, RICHARD, WILLIAM, GEORGE, JAMES and JOHN, to whom—and the descendants of each—we will devote a separate chapter in turn. Their three daughters were :

- (1) SARAH, born 10 February, 1822, died in infancy 27 November, 1823.
- (2) SARAH NASH, born 22 July, 1825. She married SAMUEL KING BLAND, the youngest son of JOHN BLAND of Long Buckly, in the county of Northampton. She died of tuberculosis 2 December, 1853.
- (3) REBECCA, born 6 March, 1828. She married THOMAS, son of JOHN MAY of Grays Farm, Frognal, in Chislehurst. They lived at Chalk Pit Farm, St. Paul's Cray, Co. Kent. She died also of tuberculosis.

A granddaughter of CALEB HIGGS and SARAH NASH, his wife, the second daughter of their eldest son CALEB—SARA by name, and wife of JOHN TURNER RAE, of 17, Darent Road, Stamford Hill, London (N. 16), who has devoted her life to philanthropic work for girls, and founded the hostel in Hoxton in connection with the Girls' Guild of Good Life, which was opened by H.M. QUEEN MARY in 1929, has contributed the following interesting details in respect to her grandparents CALEB and SARAH HIGGS. She states :

“Grandfather and Grandmother HIGGS were wonderfully good to their grandchildren in so often having the two eldest girls of Uncle WILLIAM, LETTIE and LOUIE ; the two eldest boys of their daughter SARA BLAND, SAMUEL and JOHN, and the two eldest girls of CALEB HIGGS, DORA and SARA, staying with them, all at the same time, during their holidays. A pretty handful they must have been : the boys were full of mischief and the girls no better ! At mealtimes Grandmother made us come to the table and *stand* until ‘Grace’ had been said. One day the boys surreptitiously removed the seats from the frames of the chairs (which were of horsehair), and as soon as the ‘Amen’ was pronounced and we sat down there was a sudden disappearance of bodies—only legs, feet, hands and arms appearing round the table. Grandmother felt she had to keep order even when there was a twinkle in her eyes, but Grandfather would laugh with great enjoyment at the jokes.

“Their garden was a dream of lovely flowers, and every kind of luscious fruit, and we were allowed to pick it at will—full justice was always done ! That garden was also loved by LORD GEORGE and LADY SYDNEY, children of the DUCHESS OF MANCHESTER, who lived at Streatham and were often allowed to come to us on their little ponies, down Mitcham Lane with only a groom in attendance. Grand races were part of the diversions Grandfather arranged for us by giving pennies to those who ran swiftest and straightest. On Sunday evenings we went to Evangelical Services, which were held at the DUCHESS OF MANCHESTER’S house, her husband—SIR STEVENSON BLACKWOOD—often conducting them. He had been in the Crimean War with HEADLEY VICARS ; LORD RADSTOCK





sometimes took part in these services. Grandfather was a most unconventional man, and a favourite with SIR STEVENSON because of it. Grandmother was not very strong and had to use her brougham at night (which was a present from her son WILLIAM). Grandfather was always a 'fresh-air' man and called it a 'pill-box', saying, 'I can't be shut up in that'. So he rode on the box with his coachman! SIR STEVENSON would help him down and laughingly say 'I admire you for it'. He and the Duchess sometimes came down the lane for a call too, and then we were expected to be on our very best behaviour!" (Later, when SIR STEVENSON ARTHUR BLACKWOOD, K.C.B., became Postmaster-General, he was very good in helping Mrs. RAE with her Guild work. SIR STEVENSON was a wonderfully handsome man, as well as good, and in Society went by the name of "Beauty Blackwood".)



LEWIN ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, STREATHAM, CO. SURREY.

Erected to the Memory of CALEB HIGGS, Yeoman (of Fursedown Farm, Mitcham Lane, Co. Surrey, and of Cold Ash, Co. Berks), by his sons.

In 1864 JOSHUA HIGGS of Davies Street, Berkeley Square, London, W., and his brother CALEB HIGGS of Furzedown Farm, Mitcham, in the County of Surrey, leased the old home at Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, to the Rev. WALLIS MARMADUKE PICHTHALL, the lease reading as follows:

**This Indenture**, made the 11th day of March 1864, between JOSHUA HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks, Gentleman; and CALEB HIGGS of Mitcham Lane, in the Parish of Streatham, in the County of Surrey, Farmer, of the one part and the Rev. WALLIS MARMADUKE PICHTHALL of No. 7, Belgrave Place, Brighton, in the County of Sussex, Clerk, of the other Part.

WITNESSETH that for and in consideration of the rents and covenants hereinafter reserved and contained, and on the part of the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors,





administrators and assigns, to be paid, observed and performed. He, the said JOSHUA HIGGS (as to the premises firstly hereinafter particularly mentioned), and he, the said CALEB HIGGS (as to the premises secondly hereinafter particularly mentioned) do and each of them doth hereby demise and lease unto the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators and assigns :—

**Firstly** all that Messuage or Dwelling House, called, or known, by the name of “The Retreat”,\* situate and being at Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, in the county of Berks, together with the Stables and other outhouses thereto belonging, and used therewith, and also all the land, pleasure grounds, kitchen gardens, orchards and meadow land thereto belonging and which said premises are bounded—

*On the north and north-east*—By the road leading from Thatcham to Bucklebury,

*On the south and south-west*—By a Lane called “The City Lane”, and Cottages and gardens in the occupation of Mrs. WITWORTH and Miss HARMAN, and

*On the east*—By the premises secondly hereinafter described.

**Secondly** : All those several pieces or parcels of Meadow Land respectively called “*The Plat*” and “*Orchard*”, situate in the Parish of Thatcham, and also all that piece of ploughed land called “*The Slip*” situate in the same parish ; together with all ways, paths, passages, lights, easements, rights, numbers and appurtenances whatsoever to the said premises hereby demised, belonging or appertaining.

To have and to hold the said Messuage, or tenement, land and Premises hereby demised or intended so to be, with their appurtenances unto the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators and assigns from the 25th day of March now instant ensuing for the term of 14 years from thence next ensuing (determinable nevertheless as hereinafter mentioned) yielding and paying there for yearly and every year during the said term hereby granted, unto the said JOSHUA HIGGS, his heirs and assigns in respect of the premises firstly hereinbefore particularly mentioned the yearly rent of *sixty-one pounds sterling* and to the said CALEB HIGGS, his heirs and assigns in respect of the premises secondly hereinbefore particularly mentioned the yearly rent of *nine pounds sterling* by equal quarterly payments on the four usual Quarter Days in the year (that is to say) the 25th day of March ; the 24th day of June ; the 29th day of September ; and the 25th day of December in each and every year, free and clear from all present and future taxes, rates, rents, charges, assessments, impositions, outgoing and deductions whatsoever (Landlords’ property tax only excepted) and also yielding and paying a further and additional yearly rent of *ten pounds* for every acre, and so in proportion for a less quantity, of an acre of the Meadow Land hereby demised, which the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators or assigns shall dig, break up or convert into tillage, or use otherwise than as Meadow Land or Pasture, contrary to the Covenant in that behalf hereinafter contained ; such additional rent to be payable quarterly, on the said Quarter Days above mentioned, the first payment thereof to be due on such of the said quarter days as shall first happen next after any such Meadow Land shall be so dug, broken up or converted into tillage or used otherwise than as meadow or pasture.

And the said W. M. PICHTHALL doth hereby for himself, his heirs, executors and assigns, covenant, promise and agree with and to the said JOSHUA HIGGS, his heirs and assigns, and with the said CALEB HIGGS, his heirs and assigns in manner following (that is to say) that he the said W. M. PICHTHALL his executors, administrators and assigns shall and will well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, unto the said JOSHUA HIGGS, his heirs or assigns the said yearly rent of Sixty One Pounds, and unto the said CALEB HIGGS, his heir or assigns the said yearly rent of Nine Pounds at the times and in the proportions hereinbefore appointed for payment of the same rents respectively by the said W. M. PICHTHALL his executors, administrators or assigns shall and will, during the continuance of the time hereby granted bear, pay and discharge all taxes, rates, duties, rent charges, assessments, impositions, and outgoing of what nature or kind soever whether parliamentary, parochial or otherwise imposed or charged, or which at any time during the said term hereby granted shall be imposed or charged on the said hereby demised premises or on any part thereof, or on the Landlord for the time being in respect thereof or of the rent hereby reserved (Landlord’s Property Tax only excepted) and also that he the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors administrators or assigns shall and will from time to time and at all times hereinafter during the said term hereby granted, at his and their own costs and charges, when, where and as often as need or occasion shall be, or require, well and sufficiently repair, uphold, support, maintain, glaze,

\* Now called “Sunnyside”, Cold Ash.





pare, paint, cleanse, empty, amend and keep in good repair the interior of the said dwelling house, buildings and premises hereby demised in, by and with all, and all manner of needful and necessary reparations, cleansings and amendments whatsoever, and so at the end or other sooner terminations of this demise, leave and yield up the said surmised premises, and shall and will once in every seven years of the said term (provided this demise shall not be determined at the end of the first three years thereof) paint or cause to be painted twice over in good oil colours, in a good workmanlike manner, all the woodwork and other parts usually painted in the inside of the same dwelling house and premises respectively, and also it shall be lawful to and for the said JOSHUA HIGGS and CALEB HIGGS, their heirs and assigns and their and his agents, surveyors and workmen at all times during the said term at reasonable times in the day time, to enter into the said demised premises, or any part thereof, to view the state and condition thereof, and also for doing the external repairs hereinafter mentioned, and for any other reasonable purpose and to give or leave notice in writing on the said premises to or for the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators or assigns for the amendments of all internal defects and wants of reparation then and there found, and for the due observance and performance of the covenants or agreement herein contained.

And that he the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators or assigns, or some or one of them, will within the space of three calendar months next after every such notice shall be so given or left as aforesaid, well and sufficiently repair amend and make good all defects and wants of reparation whatsoever which ought to be done by him in the said demised premises, according to the covenant hereinbefore contained, and also that he the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators, or assigns, will at all times, during the said terms keep the said land hereby demised in good heart and condition, and so as not to allow the same to become impoverished and will properly manure the same by spending and bestowing thereon every three years of the said term, in a husband like manner at least 15 loads of good stable manure, or such quantity of artificial manure as shall be of equal value, and shall not, nor will at any time break this demise, dig, break up or convert into tillage, or use otherwise than as meadow, or pasture, any part of the said meadow land hereby demised, except the paddock in front of the said messuage or Dwelling House, which the said W. M. PICHTHALL shall be at liberty to plant ornamental trees and shrubs, and also that he, the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators or assigns, shall and will keep the hedges and fences of and belonging to the said premises hereby demised properly trained and pruned and in good order and condition, and all the ditches and watercourses properly cleansed, free and open, and also shall not nor will at any time during this demise, remove off or from the premises hereby demised any of the ornamental, fruit or other trees in or about the same, but shall and will preserve all such trees from damage from cattle or otherwise.

Provided always, and it is hereby expressly agreed, and declared that the yearly rents hereby reserved, or any part thereof, shall at any time, during the continuance of the term hereby granted be in arrears and unpaid for the space of 14 days next after any of the days hereinbefore mentioned for payment thereof or if the said W. M. PICHTHALL his executors, administrators or assigns shall neglect or fail in, or be guilty of a breach or non-performance of any or either of the covenant or agreements herein contained, or his or their part be observed or performed and kept, then and from henceforth in any of the said cases it shall, and may be lawful to and for the said JOSHUA HIGGS and CALEB HIGGS, their heirs or assigns respectively (According to their estate and interest in the premises hereby demised and the rent hereby reserved) into and upon the said messuage, or tenement, land and premises hereby demised, or into and upon any part thereof in the name of the whole to re-enter and the same to have again, repossess and enjoy as of his and their former estate, as if this lease had never been made or executed and the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators and assigns and all other tenants and occupiers of the said premises thereout, and from thence utterly expel put out and remove anything therein before mentioned to the contrary thereof, in any wise notwithstanding.

And the said JOSHUA HIGGS, doth hereby for himself, his heirs and assigns, covenant, promise and agree with and to the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators and assigns, that he the said JOSHUA HIGGS, his heirs, or assigns, shall and will from time to time, and at all times hereafter, during the said term hereby granted, at his and their own costs, and charges when, where and as often as need or occasion shall or require, well and sufficiently repair, uphold, support, maintain, tile, glaze, pare, paint, cleanse,





amend and keep in good repair the exterior of the said Dwelling House and buildings hereby demised in by and with all and all manner of needful and necessary reparations, cleansings and amendments whatsoever, and that he the said JOSHUA HIGGS, his heirs and assigns shall and will, once in every four years of the said term hereby granted, paint or cause to be painted twice over in good oil colours, and in a good workmanlike manner all the wood and ironwork heretofore usually painted on the outside of the said Dwelling House and buildings hereby demised the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators and assigns hereby agreeing to pay and allow him and them the sum of Ten pounds Sterling towards the expenses incurred by the said JOSHUA HIGGS, his heirs or assigns in the external painting hereby agreed to be done by the said JOSHUA HIGGS, his heirs or assigns as aforesaid.

And the said JOSHUA and CALEB HIGGS do hereby respectively for themselves, their heirs and assigns, according to their respective estates and interests in the premises and the rent hereby reserved, covenant, promise and agree with and to the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors and administrators, that he the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators and assigns, paying the said rents hereby reserved and observing and performing the covenants, clauses, conditions and agreements hereinbefore contained, and on his and their parts to be paid, observed and performed, shall and may peaceably and quietly have, hold, possess and enjoy the said hereby demised premises with their appurtenances for and during the said term hereby granted without any interruption or disturbance of, from or by the said JOSHUA HIGGS and CALEB HIGGS, or either of them, their or either of their heirs or assigns, or any person lawfully claiming, or to claim by from or under or in trust for them, him or any of them.

Provided always, and it is hereby expressly declared and agreed between and by the said parties hereto that it shall be lawful for the said JOSHUA HIGGS and CALEB HIGGS, their heirs or assigns or for the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors administrators or assigns to determine this lease at the end of the first three years, or at the end of the first seven years of the said term hereby granted, upon the said JOSHUA HIGGS and CALEB HIGGS, their heirs or assigns delivering to the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators or assigns, or leaving for him or them at or upon the said hereby demised premises six calendar months' previous notice in writing or upon the said W. M. PICHTHALL, his executors, administrators or assigns delivering to the said JOSHUA HIGGS and CALEB HIGGS, their heirs or assigns at his or their usual or last known place of abode in England respectively a similar notice in writing, and in either of the said cases this present Indenture and every clause, matter or thing herein contained, shall upon the expiration of the said first three years, or first seven years (as may be the case) of the said term hereby granted, cease determine and be void (save as to any breach theretofore made by any or either of the said parties hereto, his or their respective heirs, executors, administrators or assigns of any of either of the covenants or agreements herein contained) anything herein before contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

**In witness whereof** the said Parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

JOSHUA HIGGS.

CALEB HIGGS.

WALLIS MARMADUKE PICHTHALL.

Signed, sealed and delivered by the within named JOSHUA HIGGS in the presence of—

W. J. COWPER,     £  
Solicitor,  
Newbury.

Signed, sealed and delivered by the within named CALEB HIGGS in the presence of—

GEORGE HIGGS,\*  
The Admiralty,  
Somerset House.

\* The fourth son of CALEB HIGGS and SARAH NASH, his wife.





## CHAPTER VIII

## Caleb Higgs, Yeoman, of Worcester Park Farm

CALEB HIGGS of Worcester Park Farm, Cheam, in the county of Surrey, was the eldest son of CALEB HIGGS of Mitcham, formerly of Lambeth in the same county, and of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, in the county of Berks, by SARAH, daughter of RICHARD NASH, his wife. He was born at Lambeth on 14 September, 1820, in the house at Ferry Street, within a stone's throw of the old ferry landing on the river's bank, and opposite to the Parish Church and beautiful old Palace of the Archbishops of Canterbury. As a boy he was sent by his parents to a small private school conducted by the minister of the Methodist Chapel (near Marshgate—and later known as Regent Street Chapel, Lambeth) in the vestry of that building. Until his parents moved from Lambeth to Walworth, he and his brothers assisted their father with the dairy farm and milk supply business which he had started soon after settling in Lambeth from the old home at Cold Ash.

In November, 1847, he married DORCAS, the daughter of THOMAS JENNER of Horne Park, in the county of Kent, a member of an ancient Sussex family which probably derived its name from *Le Enginhur*, *Lingineur*, or *Le Geneur*, as found in charters of the time of KING HENRY III. The name is found in a variety of forms throughout the county of Sussex, changing from *Le Geneur* to *Geneure* and *Genor*, and then taking the spellings of *Genner* and *Jenner*. In 1447 we find a THOMAS GYNNOUR as member of Parliament for Midhurst, and for Shoreham in 1450.



ARMS OF  
JENNER  
FAMILY.

It was, however, from GUILLAUME GENEURE, who settled in England at Mayfield, in the county of Sussex (where he probably already had kinsfolk), that THOMAS JENNER of Horne Park claimed descent. The much-treasured record of the pedigree was taken to Australia by his son JOHN, and this became lost in a fire in that country. GUILLAUME GENEURE was a refugee from France about 1562, having suffered much during the first persecution of the Huguenots.

THOMAS JENNER of Horne Park claimed to be a kinsman of Dr. EDWARD JENNER, the eminent physician and discoverer of vaccine as an antidote for smallpox, who twice declined to accept the honour of Knighthood from his Sovereign GEORGE IV. A sister of THOMAS JENNER of Horne Park became the wife of Capt. BUDGEN, R.N., and was appointed a Lady-in-Waiting to QUEEN CAROLINE during her residence at Blackheath, and an interesting story has been given to the compiler of this book by the late Mrs. SARA RAE (*née* SARA HIGGS), a granddaughter of THOMAS JENNER, only a few weeks prior to her decease, when she wrote as follows:

"Our aunt, ESTHER JENNER, often took me to see the Palace on Blackheath, where her aunt, the wife of Capt. BUDGEN, R.N., had been in residence as Lady-in-Waiting to QUEEN CAROLINE. Upon one occasion she told us the story of how her aunt, Mrs. BUDGEN, was in great consternation one day over the Queen coming into the room just at the moment when the PRINCESS CHARLOTTE, having fallen out with her young son (who was about the same age as the Princess, and usually a great companion), was

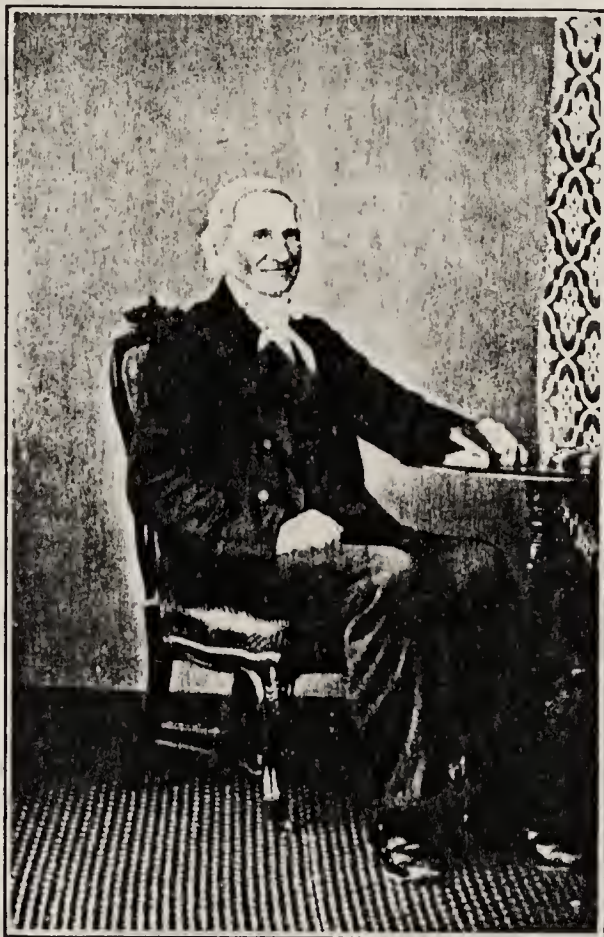




settling the dispute in a stand-up fight. Her Majesty at once put Mrs. BUDGEN at her ease by saying—' *Don't trouble, children will be children ; it does them no harm* ' ''.

Mrs. SARA RAE also stated : " SIR WILLIAM JENNER " (who was born at Chatham, Co. Kent, in 1815, and was appointed Physician-in-Ordinary to HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA in 1862 ; to the PRINCE OF WALES in 1863 ; and attended the PRINCE CONSORT in his last illness in 1861, and who attended the PRINCE OF WALES in a similar attack of typhoid in 1871), " claimed to be related some distance back. LADY JENNER, his wife, sometimes wrote to me and subscribed to the Guild (The Girls' Guild of Good Life, founded by Mrs. SARA RAE at Hoxton) for many years until her death ".

Another statement of historical interest from Mrs. SARA RAE's letters will not be out of place in connection with the details relating to the JENNER family. She wrote :



THOMAS JENNER OF HORNE PARK, NEAR BLACKHEATH, CO. KENT,  
THE FATHER OF DORCAS JENNER WHO BECAME THE WIFE OF  
CALEB HIGGS, THE YOUNGER, OF CHEAM, CO. SURREY.

" Our family knew how it was Dr. E. JENNER discovered Vaccination. It was through his countless Small-pox patients—nearly every one had it in those days—and he thought it strange that *dairy maids* so often escaped it, which led him to feel that when they milked the cows, with sores upon their fingers, they became inoculated, and that this in some way prevented it. He then tried inoculation upon himself first, and later upon one of his babies (which was a period of fearful anxiety to him and his wife, as they feared it might result in death to a young baby). "

The ancient arms of the JENNER family as shown upon the tabulation here given were : " Vert (green) three cups or (gold) two in chief and one in base ". Their motto was " Noblesse Oblige ", and Mrs. SARA RAE stated that when she and her brothers and sisters were children this motto was drilled into them when a mean thing had been done or the truth had not been told.





## PEDIGREE of the JENNER FAMILY.

THE ANCIENT  
ARMS of GENEURE  
GENER or JENNER.



"VERT 3 CUPS OR,  
TWO AND ONE"  
Motto: "Noblesse Oblige"

JENNER (probably of HAYWARD'S HEATH  
Co. SUSSEX as "When SAMUEL JENNER took over the old  
Milling business it had then been in the family for  
upwards of 100 years")  
Letter to W. MILLER HIGGS  
from MRS SARA RAE  
JUNE 1933

THOMAS JENNER of HORNE PARK, nr BLACKHEATH  
Co. Kent (a kinsman of Doctor EDWARD JENNER (1749-1823) the discoverer  
of Vaccine for inoculation against Small-Pox) traditionally des-  
cended from GUILLAUME GENEURE who settled at MAYFIELD Co. SUSSEX  
circa 1562 as a refugee from religious persecution in FRANCE.

CAPTAIN  
JENNER BUDGEN RN  
She was a  
LADY-IN-WAITING  
to QUEEN CAROLINE

CALEB JOSHUA JENNER  
who settled in  
AUSTRALIA and  
became the HON.  
CALEB J. JENNER  
as a Member of  
the UPPER HOUSE  
of PARLIAMENT in  
MELBOURNE.

JOHN WILLIAM JONATHAN JENNER  
who also of  
settled HAYWARDS BATTLE  
in HEATH Co. SUSSEX.  
AUSTRALIA SUSSEX  
taking out who  
with him owned &  
the much operated  
treasured a flour  
labulated mill which  
pedigree had been  
of the established  
JENNERS for many  
of SUSSEX years in  
which he the JENNER  
came burnt FAMILY  
in a fire

DORCAS JENNER  
born: 1828  
m: Nov.  
1847.  
d: 24 JAN.  
1876  
BUR: KINGSTON, SURREY  
Note: This tabu-  
lation has been  
compiled from  
the letters of  
the late Mrs  
Sara Rae & the  
order in which  
the sons of  
Thomas Jenner  
should be given  
is not known.  
W. M. H.

ESTHER CAROLINE  
HIGGS JENNER married  
CHEAM died STRICKLAND  
Co. unmarried by whom  
SURREY she had a son  
eldest son of HAROLD S. of  
CALEB HIGGS DARTFORD, KENT  
of FURSEDOWN & a dau. who he  
FARM Parish of came the wife of  
STREATHAM Co. SURREY & DOUGLAS  
COLD ASH par. of THATCHAM, BERKS. MANNINGTON  
of RIFE Co.  
SUSSEX.



ARMS  
ON  
RECORD  
AT THE  
COLLEGE  
OF ARMS  
OF COLD ASH

LESLIE JENNER = a dau.  
of SOUTH YARRA  
MELBOURNE AUS. of LADY  
SARGOOD  
During the World  
War, he came to  
AUSTRALIA HOUSE  
LONDON, to give  
assistance to the  
AUSTRALIANS on  
leave. He then  
held the rank  
of temporary Colonel  
but has discontinued  
to use the title since.  
W.S. CAMPBELL, a  
brother of GEORGE  
who married LOUISA  
HIGGS (the first cousin  
of COL LESLIE JENNER  
did much to assist him  
in his work at AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE in arranging for  
"vehicles to take big parties out every  
day all round London and to the  
country to various places of in-  
terest, and also arranged many  
plays and other entertainments  
at Australia House & other places"  
From letter to W. MILLER HIGGS by Mrs SARA RAE 28 MAY 1933

SAMUEL JENNER  
of HAYWARDS  
HEATH  
who took  
over the old es-  
tablished milling  
business from  
his uncle  
WILLIAM JENNER  
d: 30 OCT 1909

ARTHUR EDITH KATIE  
SAMUEL DORA LOUISE  
JENNER

living in  
CALIFORNIA  
m. 1904  
and has  
issue

DORCAS SARA JOHN CALEB = MARTHA LOUISA GEORGE  
JENNER HIGGS JP dau. of born 2nd son  
of RAE HAYWARDS RICHARD 1 JULY  
eldest son HEATH Co. JOHN 1856  
of ROBERT SUSSEX CHAPMAN m.  
RAE of b: 20 FEB 1854 of 27 APRIL  
CROUCH END he joined BRIGHTON 1882.  
of the same his SUSSEX  
family as cousin d: 26 APR 1926  
JOHN RAE Samuel Jenner in the  
SCOTTISH ARCTIC old Milling business  
EXPLORER & they milled under the  
(1813-1893) name of -  
J.T. RAE died 14 JAN 1929 JENNER & HIGGS

IDA GRACE GEORGE GLADYS LAWRENCE DORIS  
RAE LESLIE E. PRYOR EVERSLEY W  
Their only child CAMPBELL m: 1915 CAMPBELL JEFFERY  
b: 15 APRIL 1880 (Solicitor) m: 1918  
Succumbed to b: 12 APR  
Typhoid 19 JAN. 1898 1883

JOHN DAVID MARY JOAN  
LESLIE HENRY (JEFFERY)  
CAMPBELL CAMPBELL b: 27 JUNE b: 17 DEC 1924  
b: 21 JAN 1926 m: 29 AUG. 1921 at SURBITON Co. SURREY  
at SURBITON 1929 at SURBITON

GRACE RHODA HIGGS. WELLIE (ELLEN) = ERNEST  
born: 8 MAY 1859 living 1933. b: 2 MAR 1861 WALTER  
at BROADSTAIRS Co. KENT. d: APR. 1891 ASHBY





DORCAS HIGGS (*née* JENNER) was born in 1828, and passed away 24 January, 1876. She was interred at Kingston-on-Thames, Co. Surrey.

Before marriage CALEB HIGGS took up the leases of several farms at Cheam, making Worcester Park Farmhouse his home, and upon these lands he kept a large herd of dairy cows, and built up a very successful business. He let the houses of "Sparrow" and "Cold Harbour" farms. The last-named was a large one, and had historical traditions. It was said that QUEEN ELIZABETH had visited this residence, which dated back to days before her reign. It possessed a wonderful old well in a cellar, which was never known to run dry, and this was opposite to a "built-up" entrance to a subterranean passage which led from this ancient place to the Parish Church, and this had formed a means of escape in perilous days for politicians and others.

CALEB HIGGS employed over a hundred men upon his lands at Cheam and Maldon in connection with his dairy herds, and finding that there was little service of a spiritual nature to be then had in the village of Maldon, he took a house upon the village green, and by removing the upper floors, he turned it into a Mission Hall, where Sunday services and schools were held for the men, their wives and children. The pulpit was exactly opposite the door with an aisle up to it, and on hot summer evenings the door was always open. One Sunday evening in the middle of the sermon—which was being delivered by a young student from Spurgeon's College, named MEDHURST (who afterwards became a well-known minister)—two enormous sows walked in from the green, and began a slow procession up the aisle to the pulpit. The congregation seemed paralysed, and no attempt was made to drive them out. The student had a keen sense of humour and actually burst out laughing, saying: "My friends, please remove them. I cannot 'cast my pearls before swine'".

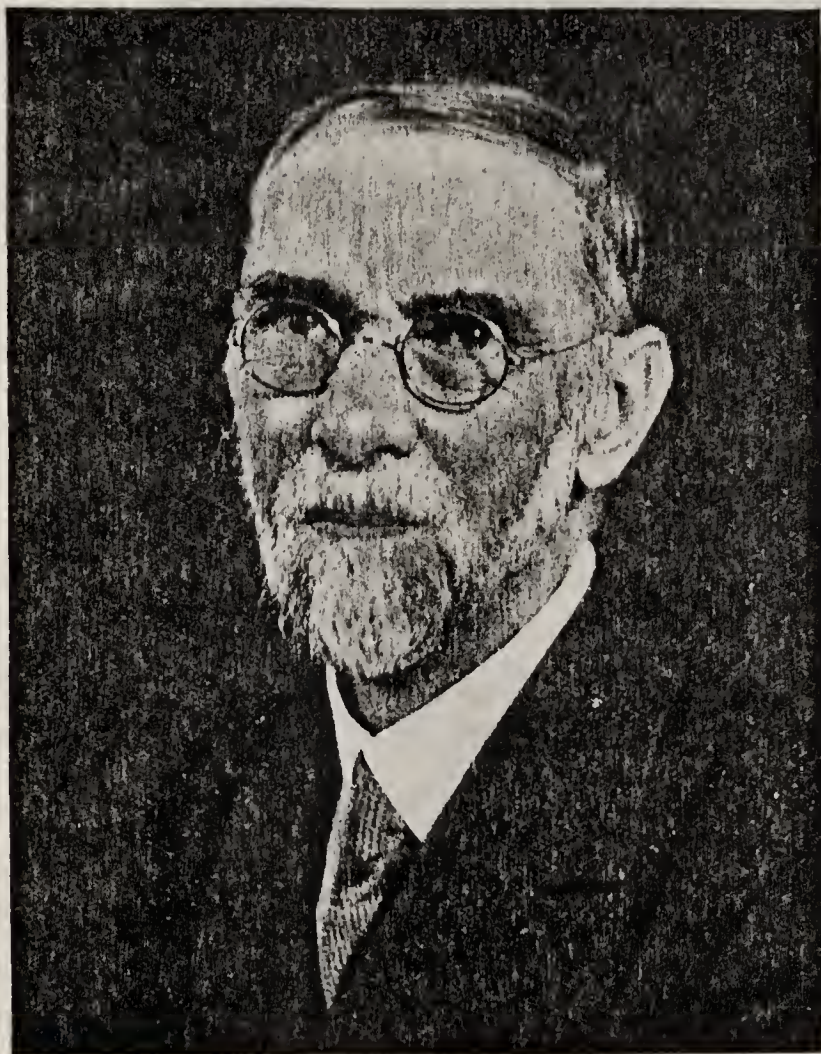
The Rev. CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON was very glad to have this Mission Hall to send the young students from his College to for gaining experience in conducting services, and so regular services were maintained week after week, and the students were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. CALEB HIGGS at Worcester Park Farm. Mr. and Mrs. C. H. SPURGEON were themselves frequent visitors also, and once said: "Nowhere do we get so peaceful, and beautiful, a rest as at Worcester Park", and it was their joy to roam the woods and the fields free from the public gaze, for at that time SPURGEON's popularity was at its height, and thousands flocked to hear him wherever he went. What a change in this locality has since taken place! How the great Metropolis has spread! The peacefulness and beauty of the scene have passed as also have the generous, kindhearted Yeoman and his wife, and the great Nonconformist Preacher it was their privilege to entertain.

By DORCAS JENNER, his wife, CALEB HIGGS had one son, who was born at Kennington, and five daughters, all of whom were born at Worcester Park Farm. The married life of CALEB HIGGS and DORCAS JENNER, however, was not of long duration, and DORCAS HIGGS became a widow 9 September, 1861, her husband dying at the early age of forty-one, when he was buried at Kingston-on-Thames, Co. Surrey. Their eldest child was but thirteen years of age, whilst the youngest was only six months at the time of CALEB HIGGS's decease. Sometime after CALEB HIGGS's death his brother WILLIAM advised DORCAS, the widow, to renew the lease upon the farms which she did, and so was able to educate and provide for her young family for some years. Eventually the dairy herd was attacked with cattle plague—or "rinderpest"—and one morning the young son CALEB (who was only seven years old when his father died), upon going out into one of his mother's fields, counted over a hundred fine animals all lying stricken or dead. This was a heavy loss indeed, there being no compensation from the Government at this time; but the loss did not terminate there, for milk contracts had to be fulfilled, and as so many cows had died all over the country, the meeting of claims under this heading was a





serious matter. Then, too, contracts had been entered into with Messrs. WATNEY, the brewers, for supplying wet grains to the farm. Large pits were dug into which the wet grains were put, in order to try and save them, but that failed and the grains were wasted. Notwithstanding all this terrific loss DORCAS HIGGS was not financially ruined, and she was able to dispose of the goodwill of the lease for a substantial sum. Her brother-in-law, WILLIAM HIGGS, of Lambeth, came to her assistance, and what was left of her capital was invested in some cottage property, under his advice, at Bermondsey, near to which the Tower Bridge Road eventually came, when it was sold at



CALEB HIGGS, J.P., MILL OWNER, OF HAYWARDS HEATH, ONLY SON OF CALEB HIGGS AND DORCAS JENNER, HIS WIFE, BORN 20 FEBRUARY, 1854; DIED 27 DECEMBER, 1932.

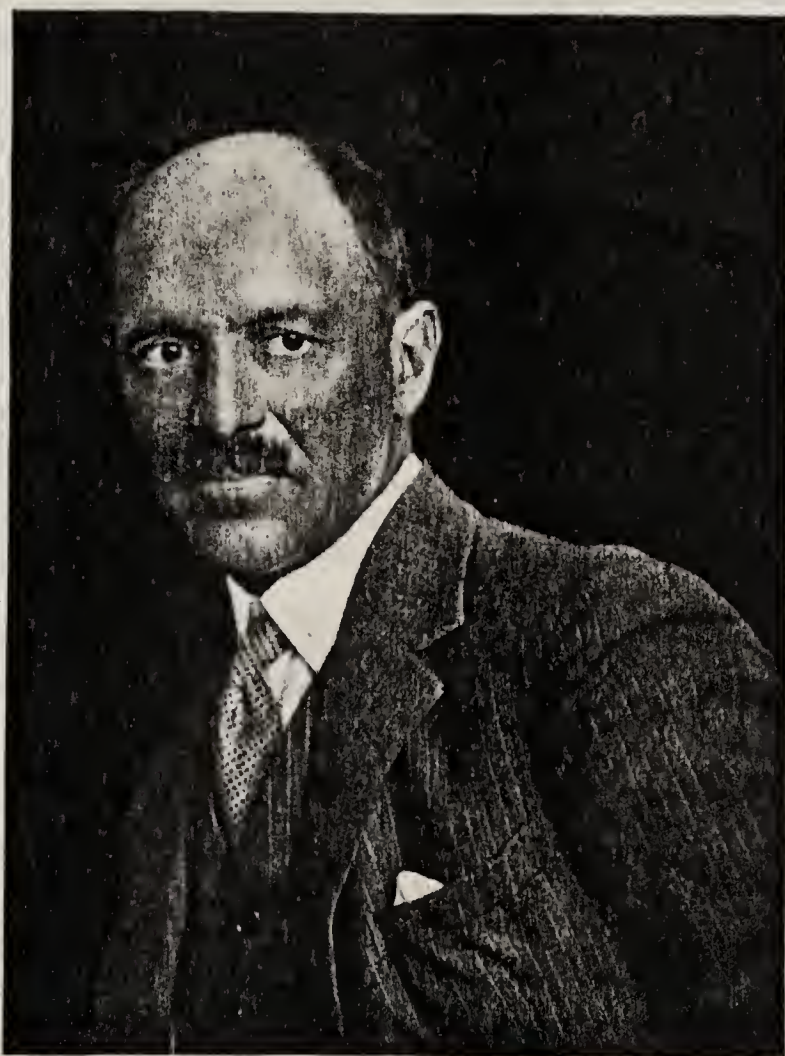
a handsome profit, and the family have always felt that a debt of gratitude was due to him for the way in which he handled the affairs of his deceased brother CALEB for the benefit of his widow DORCAS and her family. He was indeed a man of remarkable foresight and judgment in business affairs, and with him it was a delight to give others the benefit of the ability he possessed.

**CALEB HIGGS, J.P.**, of Haywards Heath, Co. Sussex, the son of CALEB HIGGS and DORCAS JENNER, his wife, was born at Kennington, 20 February, 1854. Being left fatherless as quite a little lad, and bearing his father's name as well as his grandfather's, he became a great favourite of his grandfather CALEB, and used to spend a good deal of his school holidays at Furzedown Farm, Mitcham Lane, Streatham. After school-days were ended he went to Haywards Heath in the county of Sussex, where he joined his





cousin and brother-in-law SAMUEL JENNER, son of JONATHAN JENNER, of Battle, Co. Sussex, in business as millers trading under the name of JENNER & HIGGS, so carrying on the old business which SAMUEL JENNER took over from his uncle, WILLIAM JENNER, and which business had been operated by the JENNER family for over a century. On 5 March, 1879, he married MARTHA, the eldest daughter of RICHARD JOHN CHAPMAN, of Brighton, in the county of Sussex, and they made their home in a fine old Tudor house called "Wickham" at Haywards Heath, which at one time was probably



*Caleb Higgs*

CALEB WALTER HIGGS, MERCHANT, ELDEST SON OF CALEB HIGGS OF  
HAYWARDS HEATH, BORN 10 MARCH, 1880.

a manor house and one which might have been occupied by an ironmaster, as it is in the midst of the Weald of Sussex iron smeltery district, and three sons and three daughters were born to them, namely :

1. CALEB WALTER HIGGS, born 10 March, 1880. He was educated at University School, Hastings. On 11 September, 1907, he married at Orpington Baptist Church his father's first cousin CATHERINE, the ninth daughter of JOHN and ANN HIGGS, of Crofton Farm, Orpington, in the county of Kent, a gifted musician and a London Royal Academician—pianist—of the Guildhall School of Music, holding both the bronze and gold medals of that school. Making their home at Scad's Hill, Orpington, and afterwards in a house "Cliff End", which he built at Fairlight,





near Hastings, in Sussex, CALEB WALTER HIGGS became the founder and chairman of the firm of PATTULLO HIGGS & Co., LTD. (Agricultural Merchants), having the head offices at Orpington. The following children have been born to CALEB WALTER and CATHERINE HIGGS :

1. WALTER JOHN CALEB HIGGS, born 30 April, 1913.
  - (1) ANNE MARGARET, born 21 October, 1906 (called "NANCY").
  - (2) CATHERINE JOAN, born 26 July, 1915.
  - (3) MAVIS GILIAN, born 14 August, 1921. She died 27 November, 1931.
2. RALPH DOUGLAS HIGGS, born 8 August, 1883; he, too, received his education at University School, Hastings, and has since become a chartered accountant, making his home in the place of his birth. He married 5 June, 1913, HELEN ADA, daughter of JOHN WAIND, and by her has two sons :
  1. HARRY JOHN WALTER HIGGS, born 25 April, 1914.
  2. KENNETH DOUGLAS HIGGS, born 5 December, 1916.
3. KENNETH ALAN HIGGS, the third son of CALEB and MARTHA HIGGS, of Haywards Heath, was born there 5 October, 1886, and became a partner with his father in the old business of JENNER & HIGGS. He received his education at Mr. Draper's School for Boys at Haywards Heath, and afterwards at University School, Hastings, *where he shone as a cricketer. Later he played for the county, and is distinguished as being one of seven only who had then made a century the first time they played for their county.* He has been obliged to relinquish county cricket through business ties. On 2 September, 1918, he married MADGE, daughter of ROBERT BEDFORD VIALI, Esq., J.P., of Redhill, in the county of Surrey, by whom he has the following children :
  1. PATRICK HIGGS, born 17 March, 1920.
  - (1) PAMELA MADGE, born 28 December, 1922.
  - (2) JUNE, born 1 June, 1925.

During the World War KENNETH ALAN HIGGS held a Commission in the Civil Service Rifles, British Expeditionary Force, having joined the Army within a month of its outbreak.

The three daughters of CALEB and MARTHA HIGGS of Haywards Heath are as follows :

- (1) MABEL DORA, born at Haywards Heath 14 May, 1881. She died there 21 April, 1907.
- (2) NELLIE GRACE, born at Haywards Heath 1 May, 1882, and also died there 27 August, 1909.
- (3) DOROTHY KATE, born at Haywards Heath 11 January, 1896. She kept house for her father, after her mother's decease, when her father moved from "Wickham" into a smaller residence.

MARTHA, the wife of CALEB HIGGS of Haywards Heath, died 26 April, 1926, and was buried in Cuckfield Cemetery.

CALEB HIGGS, up to the time of his decease—27 December, 1932—took the keenest interest in county and national news, and his delight was to watch a cricket match, in which game, like his son KENNETH, he had always taken a great deal of pleasure. He delighted also to spend a few days or weeks occasionally at his son CALEB's holiday cottage on the cliffs between Hastings and Winchelsea, in company with his grandchildren. He took an interest in the business with his son KENNETH until his death. A man of sterling character, sound judgment, and a charm of manner which endeared him to all with whom he came in contact.

The five daughters of CALEB HIGGS of Cheam and DORCAS JENNER his wife were :





- (1) DORCAS (DORA), who was born at Worcester Park Farm 25 September, 1848. It was she who married in 1869 SAMUEL JENNER, the eldest son of JONATHAN JENNER, of Battle, Co. Sussex, with whom her brother CALEB went into partnership at Haywards Heath, in the milling business. SAMUEL JENNER died at Stamford Hill 31 October, 1909 (*vide* Tabulation, JENNER family).
- (2) SARA, who was born 13 December, 1850. She married 6 June, 1877, JOHN TURNER RAE, the eldest son of Mr. ROBERT RAE of Crouch End, and whom he succeeded as Secretary of the National Temperance League. He was of the same family as Dr. JOHN RAE, the Scottish Arctic explorer (1813-1893), who was born near Stromness, in the Orkney Isles, and entered the service of the Hudson Bay Company as doctor in 1833. It was he who, in 1853-4, discovered, with seven comrades, the sad relics of the Franklin expedition. Altogether he was engaged in five Arctic expeditions between 1846 and 1854, four of which he commanded. JOHN TURNER RAE was a splendid man and a beautiful character. His portrait is given with the Preface to this book, taken with his wife—one of the THREE COUSINS to whose memory this work is dedicated. They only had one child, a daughter, whom they named IDA GRACE, born to them on 15 April, 1880. This greatly beloved girl succumbed to typhoid 19 January, 1898, in her eighteenth year, which was a terrible blow to her parents—though through this agony of suffering the birth of a great work in North-East London took place, for from that time SARA RAE devoted her life entirely to endeavouring to brighten the lives of poor girls in Hoxton, in which work she had with her husband taken some interest, before their child was taken, in connection with temperance meetings held at a hall in Hoxton Street under the leadership of Mr. WILLIAM NOBLE (still alive, living in Birmingham—1933—aged about 90). SARA RAE saw that a great work lay before her of a social, as well as of a religious character, and she drowned the sorrows of her aching heart in the real joy to be found in trying to help others. She commenced a guild for girls, teaching them sewing, cooking, first-aid, etc., she had a drill instructress and a choirmaster, for she believed in the usefulness of song and music. The work grew so rapidly that she soon took over the whole of Hoxton Hall for classes and recreations for the poor girls in this sordid district, and hundreds of inquiries poured in to her from churches hearing of the great success of the undertaking, and desiring to commence similar guilds. She named this guild by the name suggested to her by a friend of her husband's father, Mr. ROBERT RAE, namely, SIR BENJAMIN WARD RICHARDSON, the great physician and surgeon (1828-1896), "The Girls' Guild of Good Life". (SIR BENJAMIN WARD RICHARDSON, strangely enough, possessed some of Dr. EDWARD JENNER's instruments.) The Girls' Guild of Good Life at Hoxton Hall was started upon Temperance lines and all members were asked to sign the pledge. LADY ELIZABETH BIDDULPH and LADY HENRY SOMERSET, both strong teetotallers, were very glad to find this was the case, and through LADY ELIZABETH and LADY JANE ELLICE, Ladies-in-Waiting to QUEEN VICTORIA, Her Majesty became interested in the Guild. QUEEN ALEXANDRA was a great friend to it and did much to help it, and QUEEN MARY has exerted powerful influence for it through many long years.

Not only has QUEEN MARY taken the keenest interest in this Guild, but Her Majesty, learning of the desire of Mrs. SARA RAE to see a hostel for women and girls instituted in Hoxton, became the first contributor to the Building Fund by sending £100. Later QUEEN MARY gave £6000 from the proceeds of the Dolls' House at Wembley, and when Mrs. RAE, and her co-workers, did not know where to turn for further funds Her Majesty gave another £2000 herself to complete the building. This was kept a profound secret, as the Queen did not wish it to be known, but by urgent request permission was granted for this to be made public, and LADY BERTHA DAWKINS, Lady-in-Waiting to Her Majesty, openly expressed the heartfelt gratitude of all to QUEEN MARY at the opening ceremony which she herself performed in 1929.

Space forbids the giving of further details in connection with the great work at Hoxton born from the heart's travail of SARA RAE. She herself ever shrank from having her name or efforts eulogized, but this account of the HIGGS family would not be complete did we not pay tribute to the memory of the daughter of CALEB HIGGS and DORCAS JENNER, his wife, who triumphed over personal suffering, and the deepest of grief, by the sacrifice of her life spent for the upraising of the





poor and needy in North-East London, and by her sincerity and the sinking of self, won the esteem and love of poor and rich alike, and was graciously remembered, in a very personal way, by HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY, who has done so much to assist, and help on the work at Hoxton.

The compiler has been permitted to reproduce a personal photograph of QUEEN MARY and the PRINCESS MARY, signed by each of them, and sent to Mrs. SARA



RAE in 1917, and we are able to reproduce a picture of the handsome bowl presented by Her Majesty as a personal token of esteem upon the occasion of the golden wedding which Mr. and Mrs. JOHN TURNER RAE celebrated at the Hoxton Hall, 6 June, 1927. This bowl was sent direct to their home, No. 17, Darenth Road, Stamford Hill, London, with Her Majesty's card of "Best Wishes", and has been reproduced from a photograph taken by Miss NANCY HIGGS, a niece of Mrs. SARA RAE, at her request for this book only a week or two before she passed away, quietly in her sleep at Beltinge, near Herne Bay, where she had gone for a month's rest upon her doctor's advice. A beautiful ending to a remarkable life in the







THE HANDSOME BOWL SENT BY HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARY AS A GOLDEN WEDDING GIFT TO MRS. SARA RAE (NÉE HIGGS).



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

*With best wishes on  
the occasion of the  
golden wedding from  
Mary R.  
1927.*





service of others. She was called to a Higher Service in the Life Beyond on Sunday, 18 June, 1933. JOHN TURNER RAE passed away in 1929. May all who may read the story of SARA RAE (*née* HIGGS) do what they can to see that the work she founded is carried on.

- (3) LOUISA, the third daughter of CALEB HIGGS and DORCAS JENNER his wife, was born at Cheam 1 July, 1856. She married GEORGE, the second son of Mr. GEORGE CHARLES CAMPBELL of Fentiman Road, Clapham, Co. Surrey, and had by him two sons (*vide* Tabulation).
- (4) GRACE RHODA was the fourth daughter, and was born at Cheam 8 May, 1859. She eventually settled at Broadstairs in Kent. (A spinster.)
- (5) NELLIE, the youngest daughter of CALEB and DORCAS HIGGS, was born at Worcester Park Farm, Cheam, 2 March, 1861. She married ERNEST WALTER, the eldest son of Mr. JOSHUA ASHBY of Cornwall Road, Brixton, in the county of Surrey. They left no surviving issue.

Thus ends the account of the family and descendants of CALEB, the eldest son of CALEB HIGGS of Mitcham Lane, Streatham, and SARAH NASH, his wife, down to 1933.

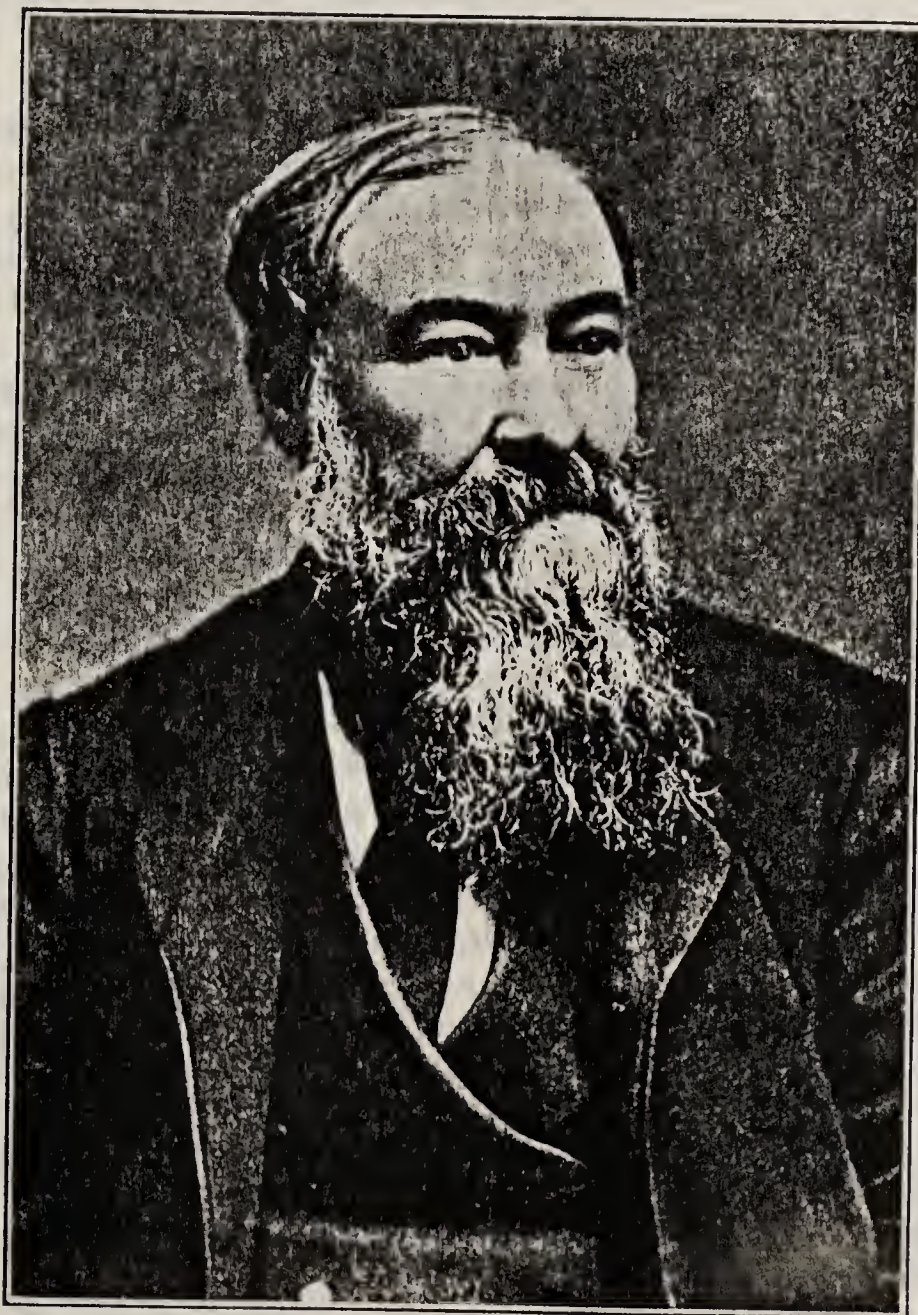




## THE FAMILY OF HIGGS



RICHARD HIGGS, YEOMAN, AS HE VISITED HIS EXTENSIVE FARMS  
ABOUT 1890 WITH HIS PONY AND CHAISE.



RICHARD HIGGS, YEOMAN, OF COLD HARBOUR FARM,  
CHISLEHURST, CO. KENT, 1823-1903.



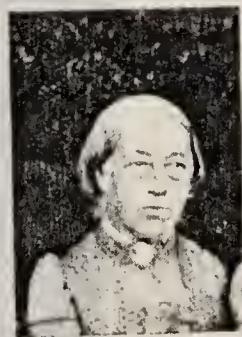


## CHAPTER IX

## Richard Higgs, Yeoman, of Chislehurst

RICHARD HIGGS, the second son of CALEB HIGGS and SARAH NASH, his wife, and so named after his maternal grandfather, RICHARD NASH, was born at Ferry Street, Lambeth, 2 February, 1823, and no doubt was sent with his elder brother to the private school held in the vestry of the old Methodist Chapel, near Marsh Gate, Lambeth, conducted by the minister. It is related that a favourite amusement of the boys was to find their way up into the pulpit of the old chapel, from whence they delivered recitations to an imaginary congregation in the empty pews! In all probability RICHARD attended Rodney House School, upon the family removing to Walworth, kept by a MR. ROBINSON in that place, as his brother WILLIAM did. His brain was a combination of the agricultural plus commercial mind, and therein was the secret of his successful business career in later life. Many men have either the one or the other, but few there are who possess both. He was brought up under the strict religious discipline customary with those of Nonconformist views at this period. Upon his leaving school he spent his whole time in connection with his father's business, and in those early days of the building up of that milk supply business on the outskirts of the great Metropolis, he actually shouldered the yoke then in use for carrying the milk to the customers in pails, and it is related that on the back of these old-time yokes were the words "*Higgs's Dairy—Everybody Knows It*", and this became a very true slogan, for this dairy became one of the best known in London. When RICHARD HIGGS had secured a fairly good *clientèle*, he launched out and built sheds in Date Street, Walworth, which were later condemned by the local council and had to be pulled down. This was his first heavy loss, but nevertheless the business grew, and he moved to more commodious premises on Walworth Common, with a branch in the Old Kent Road. This later was handed over to his first cousin, JOHN EDWARDS MARSHALL, who was a captain in the Merchant Service, and who left his seafaring life when his ship the "Ambrosine" became unseaworthy. That ship, however, was sent to sea again, and was lost with all hands.

Later RICHARD HIGGS removed to Camberwell Road, and at the age of forty married LOUISA, the daughter of JAMES HORNE of Tottenham Court Road, London. She was no ordinary woman either by birth or in character. A direct descendant of Oliver Cromwell, she inherited much of his religious character, and was first and foremost of a serious nature, and it is related of her "She knew the meaning of the claims of Christ upon her life, and by her daily reading of a portion of the Scriptures she took what she was pleased to call her 'marching orders' and with her 'daily prayer drill' she put into practice, all through her very busy life, a religion which made possible the development of a very beautiful character. Her gentleness and devotion, her rule by love and her living Christian example were only intensified by her big nature. Whilst deep and serious in her religion, she was full of frolic and ripples of laughter with her family and intimate friends." At an early age she had joined the church worshipping at Bloomsbury Chapel, and there she had been, before her marriage, a devoted worker under the inspiration and teaching of DR. BROCK.



LOUISA HIGGS, NÉE HORNE, WIFE OF RICHARD HIGGS OF COLD HARBOUR FARM, 1838-1913.





For very many years—up to the time of her decease in her seventy-sixth year (7 December, 1913), for she had been born on 28 October, 1838—she devoted one evening each week, during the winter months, to a work meeting held in her drawing-room, known as the Aid Society, for the help of the poor, and great was her delight when she received the annual cheque of £5 for this work from her nephew WILLIAM HIGGS of Stockwell. She took an active interest in the enlargement of Foots Cray Baptist Chapel, and herself laid a foundation stone of that chapel, which was first opened for Divine Worship in 1836, her husband's sister REBECCA having married Mr. THOMAS MAY, a son of Mr. JOHN MAY, of Greys Farm, St. Paul's Cray, who was one of the chief movers in getting this chapel built. LOUISA HIGGS was a woman of poetic wit, which made the more serious side of her nature stand out in contrast. She wrote a beautifully clear hand and was refined and musical, a most devoted



COLD HARBOUR FARMHOUSE, CHISLEHURST, CO. KENT.

The home of RICHARD HIGGS and his family from 1869-1911; his grandson IVOR JAMES HIGGS, son of JAMES HIGGS, in the porch.

and loyal wife, and a mother always to be remembered by her children for her love and beautiful character, which were an inspiration to her family. She was most practical in her life, and believed in "doing" rather than "talking", and whilst the thinkers and politicians were discussing ways and means to assist the poor, and the making of laws for their benefit, LOUISA, the wife of RICHARD HIGGS, always—to use her own words—kept her "charity pot going", for she always provided the poor and needy within her reach with hot soup in winter, and many a hungry family went away from her home warmed, filled and cheered. RICHARD HIGGS, in all his married life, had the unceasing backing and devotion of his saintly wife, whom he married in October, 1864, and by whom he had six sons and five daughters. About the time of his marriage he devoted his attention to farming in addition to the milk supply business. He made his home at Cold Harbour Farm, Chislehurst, near Eltham, in Kent, which he rented from the Crown, and to this farm he added three other farms in the district. Then he purchased the freehold of a fruit farm called New Barn Farm at Swanley in the same county, a valuable and productive little farm of some 120 acres, where in the strawberry and raspberry season many pickers from London were kept busy from dawn onwards, in order to catch the early market.





RICHARD HIGGS's enterprise in farming led him to participate in the growing of spring onions, which was then a new thing in the county of Kent, and as much as £90 per acre was realized from the growing of this crop. During a holiday with his brother-in-law THOMAS MAY at Dover, he saw a farm advertised for sale at Kearsney, four miles from Dover, and entering the sale room, as the bidding was low RICHARD HIGGS nodded to the auctioneer, and it was knocked down to him, subject to a few hours' grace, that it might be inspected. Stone Hall Farm, Kearsney, was in the family until after his decease, when it was sold at a big price to the Coal Mining Company, when coal was first found in Kent. This farm was used for sheep, corn and hops. Farming in England was good in those days, and very profitable, and with all the claims of business, RICHARD HIGGS found this farm at Kearsney a great diversion from his usual work of the production and the sale of milk—in fact, he always claimed he took "a holiday" once a fortnight to visit it. Its ancient name was "La Kersony", and the Manor of Kersney, or Kearsney, was originally part of the Barony of Saye. At the end of the reign of EDWARD I it was possessed by the family of Paganel, or Painall. Afterwards it was held by ELIAS DE BOCTON by knight's service, under the name of La Kersony, and next by the Norwoods. It then passed to the ROPERS of St. Dunstan's, of whom it was purchased by one named BEST of Canterbury, who alienated it to Capt. NICHOLAS TOKE; and from him it passed to the FOTHERBYES, one of whom, of Crixall, in Staple, alienated it to WILLIAM RICHARDS of Dover; and he in 1701 devised it to JOHN SLADDEN, of the same place. This gentleman gave it to his sister MARY, the wife of Mr. THOMAS FAGGE of Dover; from whom it passed to WILLIAM ANDREWS of London, who in 1788 devised it to THOMAS BIGGS, Esqre., of Dover. In 1838 Kersney Court was the seat of Mrs. FECTOR, the widow of J. M. FECTOR, Esqre., who erected the mansion in the monastic style upon the banks of the small river Dour. Kersney, Kearsney or Kersony farm was in the parish of River, about centrally located between Sibertswould, Dover, and St. Margaret-at-Cliffe, and it will be remembered that it was at the last-named place at the Church of St. Helen, that the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS ministered as Rector upon his return from The Hague as chaplain to QUEEN ELIZABETH OF BOHEMIA until he became Dean of Lichfield in 1638.

RICHARD HIGGS lost by death nearly all his cows through "rinderpest," or cattle plague, just as the widow of his elder brother CALEB HIGGS did about the same time, and later he had no less than 325 valuable cows killed for pleuro-pneumonia, but for these latter he received compensation from the Government. During the Chartist Riots he acted as a special constable. He took an active and intense interest in politics, and was a Gladstonian Liberal to the backbone. RICHARD HIGGS was a man of wide experience, and he could converse with conviction on many subjects. The religion of his forefathers was his guiding principle. His word was his bond, and he found his pleasure in his family life and home. His tastes were simple and his habits unconventional. He was a devoted father, and there was always a rush to the front door when his special knock was heard. One summer, in planning for the annual trip to Ramsgate, a difficulty arose. The baby was not well, and the milk supply in those days was often inadequate at the seaside, especially in August, so the father, nothing daunted, at once said "we will take a cow with us", and as a man would be needed to look after the cow, a further addition, in the shape of a horse and wagonette was proposed. So the family party, consisting of father, mother, seven children, two maids, a man, a horse and a cow took train for the sea. They were joined soon after by JOHN HIGGS and his large family, who also took a horse and wagonette, and the cousins had a good time together.

RICHARD HIGGS had a great love for the sea and often took some of the children for a trip on the sailing vessel "Prince Frederick William". Upon one occasion a squall sprang up and there was fear that the vessel might capsize. RICHARD HIGGS turned to





his children and said, "Now then youngsters, sing 'Master, the tempest is raging!'" and the clear young voices rang out, emphasizing the refrain, "They all shall sweetly obey My will; Peace! be still!" The Captain (a deacon of the Baptist Chapel) afterwards thanked them for the hymn and said it had helped him to keep the boat steady.

RICHARD HIGGS took part, with his young people, in cocoanut shies, and delighted in mounting them for donkey rides. He loved to see them all happy and contented, and gave a hearty welcome to the many friends they brought home. Hospitality was a great feature of his character.

He was a most generous man and ever ready to help every good cause, and always went out of the way to help the "down and out". His happy smiling countenance always brightened the lives of others, and his character won for him the love and respect of all who knew him. He lived to the ripe old age of eighty years, and died on 10 August, 1903, at Ramsgate in the county of Kent. His remains were brought to London, and laid to rest on the slope of Norwood Cemetery, near to the graves of his grandfather, RICHARD NASH, and of his father and mother, and also his brother WILLIAM. RICHARD HIGGS had worked hard in life in carrying on the dairy business, until one day he approached his son JAMES, asking him if he would take over its management. James replied, "Yes, father, on one condition". "Condition, boy! what's that?" was the surprised, and a little stern, reply; to which the son answered, "Give me a free hand and let me do what I like and the business will never be any more trouble to you, Father", and RICHARD HIGGS's reply was, "Well done, Jim, you shall have it". Long before his decease he had the satisfaction of seeing that business, commenced by his father, CALEB HIGGS—shortly after settling in London from Berkshire—and developed by himself to large proportions, in the hands of his sons grow into a huge concern. Although he married late in life he also had the satisfaction of seeing his youngest child reach the age of twenty-one years ere he "crossed the bar".

The eldest son of RICHARD and LOUISA HIGGS of Cold Harbour Farm, Chislehurst, was born in London in 1869, and was named **RICHARD** after his father. Leaving school at an early age he worked upon his father's farm during the summer, and spent the winter months in the London dairy business until 17 years of age, when he was given the choice of town or country life, and he had no hesitation in choosing the latter. To use his own words he has stated, "No town yet built is big enough to hold me". His whole nature loves the freedom of the open-air life and the voice of Nature—speaking through the winds, the storms, the clouds and the sunshine, the trees, the flowers and the fields—is everything to his soul and happiness. In 1906 he devoted himself to the work of his own farm, voluntarily relinquishing his interests in the dairy business founded by his grandfather CALEB HIGGS, and which as "R. HIGGS AND SONS" had grown to enormous proportions. He made his home at Shepherdswell, near Dover, and his spare time he has devoted to book writing and press controversy upon many matters, and has brought out much original thought upon social problems, and the lessons he has gathered from Nature are to be clearly seen in the writings from his able pen. One particular little piece, entitled "A Bunch of Daisies", we venture to reproduce in this work which has a powerful message for all:

#### "A BUNCH OF DAISIES."

(Being Chapter VIII of 'The Message of Nature', written by Richard Higgs of Coxhill Farm, Shepherdswell, in the County of Kent, during the World War.)

"It was only a small bunch of daisies, short of stalk, broken, dirty and storm-beaten little things. But it was Christmas morning—a dull, gloomy day in a sad and troubled time, and I always like to pick a bunch of daisies on Christmas Day. Let anyone have their hot-house flowers and beautiful decorations for the festive season, but give me my









FAMILY GROUP OF MR. AND MRS. RICHARD HIGGS OF CONHILL FARM, SHEPHERDSWELL, CO. KENT.

(Taken on the occasion of the celebration of their Silver Wedding in 1927.)

HERBERT	RICHARD	DOROTHEA	MABEL	BENJAMIN
GODFREY	HIGGS,	MABEL	ELIZA	RICHARD
HIGGS.		HIGGS.	HIGGS	HIGGS.
		(NÉE PEPPER).		
		JOAN IDUNA HIGGS.		OLIVF MARGARET
				HIGGS.





bunch of daisies, fresh from the open meadow. They have faced the gales and the frost, the fogs and the hail, the cattle and the sheep. They have been trodden down into the mire and been beaten and bruised, crushed and injured, but still they grow and never admit defeat. With all their trials they still show that brighter days are coming to a storm-beaten world, and they carry a message of hope, trust and joy straight from the great skies to a fellow worshipper in the mighty cathedral of Nature.

"Only a bunch of daisies, miserable little things that would be despised in the glories of June, but how infinitely precious at Christmas time. Who can despair of humanity while they can get a bunch of daisies in mid-winter? Who cannot put sorrow and sadness, worry and difficulties on one side in the sacred presence of a bunch of daisies? My daisies grow every year, and for years past I have found a bunch on Christmas Day; somewhere on the farm there is an odd corner where they flourish. Even when frost and snow are on the ground there is often a place where my daisies raise their pretty little heads and come to tell me their old, old story and give me a message of hope and trust and happiness. Some day the great mad world will learn to leave its ponderous learning and philosophies, and will go out to the storm-beaten uplands, and learn the wisdom of Eternity at the shrine of a bunch of daisies."

Other of RICHARD HIGGS's writings are: 'Dreams of the Hills', 'Nature Worship', 'Wealth and Freedom', 'The Heart of the Social Problem', 'The Control of Public Finance and Officials', the last-named being a work which has attracted a great deal of public attention in administrative circles, etc., and which may be obtained from the publishers, The Dover Printing & Publishing Co., Ltd., 144, Snargate Street, Dover.

In 1902 he married MABEL ELIZA, daughter of SAMUEL PEPPER of Scarborough, Co. York, who carried on a successful business as a building contractor in that town. Her mother came of Yorkshire yeoman stock. The name of PEPPER is an old one in this county, and may be found among the armorial families, their crest being "A demi-lion rampant-or". An interesting old document relative to the Yorkshire PEPPERS was recently offered for sale among the remarkable collection of such deeds by Mr. H. R. Moulton of 5, Park Hill, Richmond, Surrey, at £5 (Catalogue Ref. A 175-1930). This is dated 23 January, 1601, and is an "Exemplification under the Seal of Common Pleas of a fine levied in Hilary Term (43 Elizabeth) between TIMOTHY HUTTON, Esquire, plaintiff and JOHN PEPPER, gentleman, and CHRISTOPHER PEPPER, gentleman, deforciant, concerning two messuages and land in Richmond, Co. York". Appended thereto is the Common Pleas Seal of Queen Elizabeth (defective). After passing numerous examinations in her studies with distinction, MABEL ELIZA PEPPER took up a post in London in the Civil Service, during which time she chose to live at the Bermondsey Settlement, where she devoted her spare time to the service of the slum children. It has been truly written of her: "She has ever been the embodiment of purity, calm, placid and full of faith and spirituality, and the world was, and is, enriched by her influence". It is no wonder therefore that so happy a family group is given in this volume taken at Coxhill Farm, Shephardswell, upon the occasion of her silver wedding in 1927. The names of the children born to RICHARD and MABEL ELIZA HIGGS are:

1. BENJAMIN RICHARD HIGGS, born 7 October, 1907. On leaving school he took over one of his father's farms, but later emigrated to Trinidad to take up work upon a sugar plantation.
2. HERBERT GODFREY HIGGS, born 9 December, 1910. He is assisting his father on the farms at Shephardswell.
- (1) DOROTHEA MABEL, born 21 September, 1903. She went to College and took her B.A., and in 1933 is teaching in the Maidstone Grammar School, Kent, geography being her speciality.
- (2) OLIVE MARGARET, born 5 September, 1905. After leaving school she entered a business office not far from home, and has since become articled to the first firm of accountants run by ladies in London.
- (3) JOAN IDUNA, born 14 June, 1917. A great lover of open-air life.





As a press writer, author of numerous books, book reviewer, public man and practical farmer, RICHARD HIGGS's name is well known. He has been a member of the Siberts-wold Parish Council for the past thirty years, and Chairman of that Council for a number of years. He has also been a member of the Dover Board of Guardians and Rural District



*James Higgs*

JAMES HIGGS OF THE HIGHFIELD, CHISLEHURST ROAD, BICKLEY,  
CO. KENT, BORN 4 AUGUST, 1871.

Council for a long time. As a member of the Kent County Council for some years past he has served on numerous committees and in trying to serve his day and generation he is surely following in the steps of his yeomen forefathers.

**JAMES HIGGS**, the second son of RICHARD AND LOUISA HIGGS of Cold Harbour Farm, Chislehurst, in the county of Kent, was born 4 August, 1871. At the age of eight he was sent to a day-school kept by a Mr. SAMUEL SPILLER, who frequently





upheld him as an example of honesty and straightforwardness in the school. According to JAMES HIGGS he has said, " My brother Dick had all the brains for learning while I shirked all I could, but with it all kept a respectable position in the school ". On half-holidays he spent his time in trying to learn all he could of his father's business, showing at an early age an unusual, keen desire to prepare himself for taking his part with his father when the time came for him to leave school. This he did at the age of fourteen, and went straight to the farm for three months to pick up the art of milking cows. He then went to London and worked hard to learn every detail of the dairy supply business, and shortly after attaining the age of seventeen he had become so proficient that it was then his father asked him if he would like to take over the management of the business, as already narrated in the sketch of the life of RICHARD HIGGS, his father. He was given an entirely free hand by his father, and shortly after taking over the management new problems presented themselves which necessitated reorganization and, under his able direction, the business forged ahead. Having obtained a good knowledge of values and stock, he bought all the cows for the milk supply, and some 350 of the best were kept upon the farms. He also personally selected all the horses required both for the work upon the farms and for the milk delivery around London, which was then effected by the use of horses and light two-wheel carts, and a very large number were so used. When JAMES HIGGS was twenty-seven years of age a partnership was drawn up between his father, himself, his elder brother RICHARD, and his brother BENJAMIN. Under this agreement his brother RICHARD—as already stated in the outline of his life—looked after all the acreage upon the five farms, which supplied the milk daily to the business in London; JAMES HIGGS looked after the London end, and BENJAMIN had charge of a wheelwright's business, and that branch was kept busily going in repair work to the many vehicles used by the firm until BENJAMIN's death, when this branch was sold. As time went on the business had grown to enormous proportions, and changes in administration took place. RICHARD HIGGS, the father, had passed away at Ramsgate in August, 1903; the eldest son RICHARD removed to East Kent. The farms were given up, with the exception of Cold Harbour Farm, which was taken over by JAMES HIGGS, and then in 1914—upon the outbreak of the World War—JAMES HIGGS became President of the Metropolitan Dairy Trade Society of London. In writing of those days JAMES HIGGS has said :

" After War broke out I answered the call of my trade and became *President of the Metropolitan Dairy Trade Society* (London). This position I held for over four years (the hardest four years of my life). I was soon up against trade war-time difficulties, and I took my stand, and except a few key men (about six) *I released all the rest for war service*. I acted as adviser for the trade in four tribunals, and it was during this trying experience I brought out a proposal of amalgamation for the whole of the dairy interests in London distribution and county creameries and condensed milk factories. This culminated in the absorption of all the principal private businesses and public companies by the *United Dairies Limited, a company with 5½ millions (sterling) of capital* and interests in production of milk, butter, cheese, cream and all dairy produce, also dairying machinery of all kinds and many other dry goods far too numerous to mention. *United Dairies* is a holding Company. I have a seat on the Board and am a director of other sub-companies, besides being *Managing Director of the South-East London territory of about 100 square miles*. The trade has now been successfully reorganized and all London's milk is delivered in bottles, and has to comply with a very high test, both chemically and bacteriologically. The result is that the infantile death-rate has never been so low, and the public are getting absolute purity and full measure. There never was a better feeling between employer and employed, and the workers get all they earn, instead of earning what they got as in the old days. With commission payment on sales good men are getting three times more than they used to get and have a clean, honest job, and are working many less hours. With the coming of *United Dairies Ltd.* the value in the firm of RICHARD HIGGS & SONS was exchanged for shares in the company ".





It was on 18 July, 1901, that JAMES HIGGS married ETHEL MARIE, daughter of ALFRED WALKER by MARIA FRANCES NEVILL, his wife. ALFRED WALKER was a son of ALFRED WALKER by MARY ANN, daughter of WILLIAM TINSLEY GRIMMETT, his wife. WILLIAM TINSLEY GRIMMETT was born in Greenwich 12 February, 1770, and was son of WILLIAM GRIMMETT of that place, who was born in 1735, and who died in 1825; his wife was of the old Kentish family of BELLINGHAM. *The GRIMMETTS were a French Huguenot family* who took refuge in England. ALFRED WALKER, who married MARY ANN GRIMMETT, was a son of HORATIO NELSON WALKER, who was so named by his father, who at the age of twenty-two had been a midshipman in the flag-ship "Victory" under the great admiral at Trafalgar.

According to 'The Trafalgar Roll', by Col. R. H. Mackenzie (published in 1913, page 19), the midshipman named WALKER in the flag-ship H.M.S. "Victory" retired as Captain J. R. WALKER. He assumed the surname of WALKER, being a son of JAMES ROBERTSON, D.L., J.P., of Stornoway, N. Britain, by ANNABELLA, daughter of JOHN MACKENZIE, of Letterewe. He was born in 1783 and entered the Royal Navy in 1801. He served in H.M.S. "Canopus" off Cadiz, and in the Mediterranean 1803-4. Midshipman of H.M.S. "Victory" in pursuit of the combined fleets, and at Trafalgar 1805. In H.M.S. "Thames" at the attempted destruction of the Boulogne flotilla by rockets in 1806; in H.M.S. "Bellisle" at the reduction of the islands of St. Thomas and St. Croix in 1807. He was Acting-Lieutenant of H.M.S. "Fawn" at the capture of a privateer and three merchant vessels under the batteries of Puerto Rico in 1808, and in cutting out a merchant schooner. He was likewise Acting-Lieutenant in H.M.S. "Hazard" at the destruction of a French privateer, being then mentioned in despatches; he was at the capture of Guadeloupe in 1810, and at the capture of several American vessels 1812-13. He then served in the "Antelope" at the capture of the privateer "Eleanor" in 1813, and was again mentioned in despatches. He then became Lieutenant in H.M.S. "Confiance", and succeeded to the command in her action with and capture by the U.S.A. Squadron under Macdonough in 1814. He was tried by Court Martial, fully exonerated, and promoted to Commander in 1815, and became Reserve Captain upon his retirement in 1851 (medal and three clasps). He died in 1858.

Stornoway is on the Isle of Lewis, off Ross-shire, Scotland, 180 miles N.W. from Oban, and is the chief town in the Western Isles. ANNABELLA was the eldest daughter of JOHN MACKENZIE of Letterewe by KATHERINE, daughter of ALEXANDER MACKENZIE of Tollie, Provost of Dingwall; JOHN MACKENZIE was the eldest son and heir of Murdoch MACKENZIE of Letterewe by CATHERINE, daughter of SIMON MACKENZIE of Torridon; MURDOCH MACKENZIE was the eldest son and heir of CHARLES MACKENZIE of Letterewe by ANNE, daughter of JOHN MACKENZIE of Applecross; CHARLES MACKENZIE was the fourth son of KENNETH MACKENZIE of Gairloch by ANNE, daughter of JOHN MACKENZIE GRANT of Grant; KENNETH MACKENZIE was the eldest son and heir of ALEXANDER MACKENZIE of Gairloch by MARGARET, daughter of RORIE MOHR MACKENZIE; ALEXANDER MACKENZIE was the son and heir of JOHN ROY MACKENZIE of Gairloch by ELIZABETH, daughter of AENEAS McDONNELL of Glengarry; JOHN ROY MACKENZIE was the third son of JOHN GLASSICH MACKENZIE of Gairloch by AGNES, daughter of JAMES FRASER of Foyne; JOHN GLASSICH MACKENZIE (who died in 1551) was son of HECTOR ROY MACKENZIE of Gairloch by ANNE, daughter of RONALD BAYNE McDONALD of Moydart, his wife, and HECTOR ROY MACKENZIE was son of ALEXANDER ("Ionraic") MACKENZIE, 7th Baron of Kintail, by his second wife MARGARET, daughter of MACDOUGHAL of Morar, whose ancestry will be found in 'Burke's Peerage'. Such is the descent of the wife of JAMES HIGGS of Bickley, Co. Kent.

ETHEL MARIE HIGGS (*née* WALKER) became the centre of the home and church life of the family born to JAMES HIGGS by her, namely, two sons and two daughters. Of







THE HIGHFIELD HOME OF JAMES HIGGS AND FAMILY.



IVOR JAMES HIGGS, ELDER SON OF JAMES HIGGS  
BY ETHEL MARIE WALKER, HIS WIFE.



PETER NEVILL HIGGS, YOUNGER SON OF JAMES AND  
ETHEL MARIE HIGGS OF BICKLEY, CO. KENT.







ETHEL MARIE HIGGS, NÉE WALKER, WIFE OF JAMES HIGGS  
OF THE HIGHFIELD, BICKLEY, CO. KENT.



JOYE FRANCES, ELDER DAUGHTER  
OF JAMES AND ETHEL MARIE HIGGS.



EDITH BRENDA, YOUNGER DAUGHTER  
OF JAMES AND ETHEL MARIE HIGGS.





her JAMES HIGGS has said: "She has ruled by love to such an extent that when in answer to a query she says, 'Yes, you may do as you like, but I would rather you did



EDITH BRENDA HIGGS AND HER DOG.



THE HIGHFIELD GARDEN. JAMES HIGGS WITH HIS TWO DAUGHTERS, 1929.

so and so'—the child, either in his teens, or older, always respects her wishes. She is a strong character with the strongest will I have ever known, with the vivacity and





light-heartedness blended with the strength and determination of character she has inherited from the Huguenots ". The four children are as follows :

1. IVOR JAMES HIGGS, born 11 January, 1904. He has followed in the old Dairy Supply business and is a district manager in the United Dairies Ltd. Of him his father has said : " Ivor is a very capable business man with a good old head upon his shoulders, full of tact, and a friend of all with whom he comes in contact. His chief hobby is motoring, and he has won many cups and awards on reliability test runs, such as London to Exeter, London to Edinburgh, etc."
- He married 21 June, 1927, ROSABEL, daughter of WILLIAM PRIOR, of Upper Home Farm, Headley, near Newbury, in the county of Berkshire, by whom he has a son—GEOFFREY HIGGS, born 21 October, 1932 (Trafalgar day).
2. PETER NEVILL HIGGS, born 25 July, 1914. In 1930 at Wrekin College, Wellington, in the county of Shropshire, where he is choir leader, bugler in the Corps, and good at all games and " No fool at his work "—so says his father—and " with the Bible as his inspiration he is a fine man in the making ".



FAMILY GROUP CELEBRATING THE SILVER WEDDING DAY AT TENNIS, 18 JULY, 1926.

PETER	JOYE	JAMES	ETHEL	IVOR	EDITH
NEVILL	FRANCES	HIGGS.	MARIE	JAMES	BRENDA
HIGGS.	HIGGS.		HIGGS.	HIGGS.	HIGGS.

- (1) JOYE FRANCES, the elder daughter, was born 13 January, 1907. She is very musical, and has completed five years studying the violin at the Royal Academy of Music, where she has taken all the awards offered. Her father stated in 1930, " She has recently given her first recital in our town of Bromley and she has a distinct gift, which her father hopes she may be able to pass on to the rising generation in this district. She is a keen player of tennis and badminton and jolly good company ".
- (2) EDITH BRENDA, born 27 March, 1910. Of her her father writes : " Brenda is a home maker ; passed in First Aid Nursing and Domestic Science ; she is now (1930) attending the National Training School of Cookery in London, in which she takes a keen interest. She is fond of horse-riding and tennis ; plays hockey for Kent ; a friend of birds and all animals, and is also musical, the 'cello being her instrument. Her love of home is only excelled by her joy in serving others ".

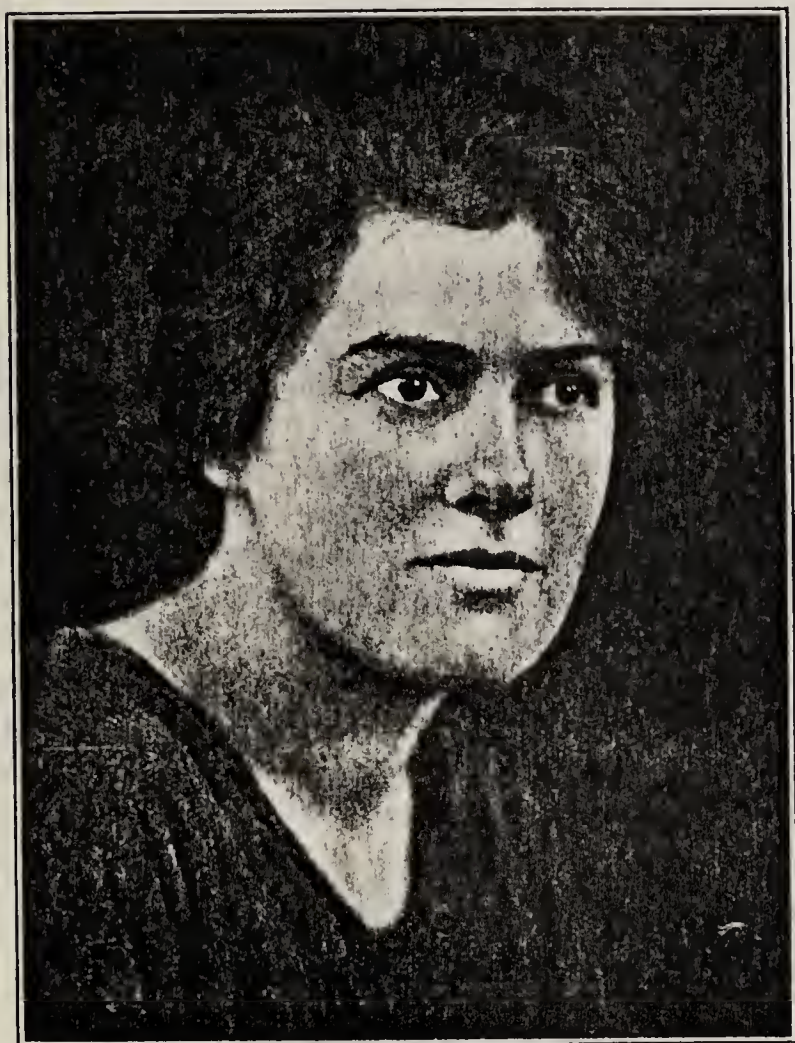
Such is the record of the family of JAMES and ETHEL MARIE HIGGS of The Highfield, Chislehurst Road, Bickley (Kent), a beautiful residence with a lovely garden as shown in the illustrations of this book.



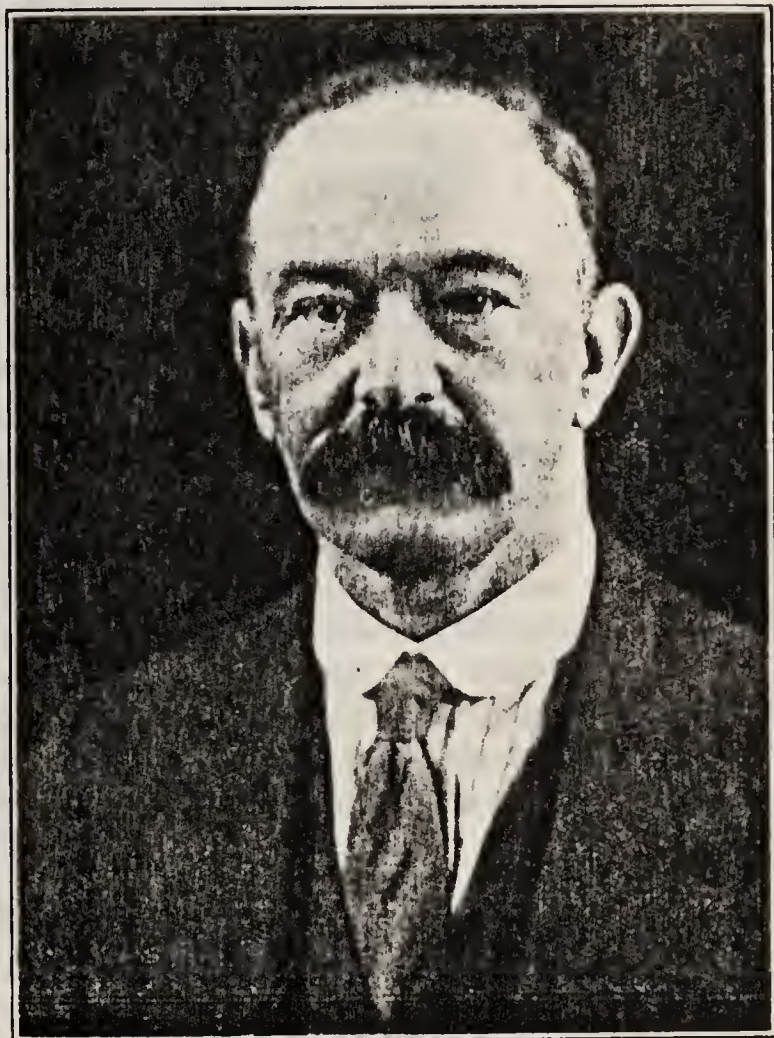


Since his father's decease JAMES HIGGS has indeed been a brother to the whole family and—like his father—generous and devout. He became a member of the Church whilst a young man in his teens, and he has said, "Many a time did I drive some ten miles to attend and take part in a prayer meeting; and the influence of those early days still remains".

**BENJAMIN HIGGS** was the third son of RICHARD and LOUISA HIGGS of Cold Harbour Farm, Chislehurst. He was born in 1874, and—as has been stated—managed a wheelwright's branch business of RICHARD HIGGS & SONS. He unfortunately died at the



DOROTHY, DAUGHTER OF ALFRED PICKARD OF ENFIELD, CO. MIDDLESEX, AND WIFE OF FRANK HIGGS OF GUERNSEY.



FRANK HIGGS OF GUERNSEY, CHANNEL ISLANDS.

age of twenty-four after having successfully built up a wheelwright's and coach-builder's business, and just before his illness he was busy getting ready to reorganize and open out to capture the rapidly developing motor trade. "*Had he lived*", so says his brother JAMES, "*I have no doubt he would have been right in the thick of this new and profitable business, but it was not to be. We think of him to-day as a man of vision and big ideas, with a foundation of faith and principle worthy of the best traditions of his family name.*"

**FRANK HIGGS** is the fourth son of RICHARD and LOUISA HIGGS of Cold Harbour Farm, and was born in 1876. After leaving the Wilson's Grammar School at Camberwell, he was sent for two years to learn fruit-farming with his cousin JOHN MAY, at Hockenden Farm, near Swanley, in Kent. He then went to Cold Harbour Farm, Chislehurst—





his father's home farm—for about five years, and thence to London, where for a short time he was engaged in connection with the milk supply business. Later he settled in the Isle of Guernsey, where he has resided for over thirty years, and to-day (1933) is one of the largest growers of tomatoes in the island, sending his fruit all over England. For years FRANK HIGGS has taken an active part in the machinery of the Government of Guernsey. He married in 1904 LILIAN GERTRUDE, daughter of JOHN BOULLIN of Chislehurst, Co. Kent, with whom he was very happy until she was taken by death. The BOULLIN family was of Huguenot origin. He married secondly in 1924, DOROTHY, daughter of ALFRED PICKARD of Enfield, in the county of Middlesex, likewise of Huguenot ancestry, the PICKARDS having traditionally settled in England from Picardy, as their very name implies. Through an ancestress, upon her mother's side, HARRIET HOUGH (born 1700, died 1793) she is a descendant of Bishop HOUGH, who was imprisoned in the Lollard's Tower as a Protestant during the reign of JAMES II (1685-8), but was released upon the accession of WILLIAM III and QUEEN MARY. Up to 1933 FRANK HIGGS has no family. He is a man of considerable means, and enjoys the respect and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact.

**ARTHUR HIGGS**, the fifth son of RICHARD and LOUISA HIGGS of Cold Harbour Farm, Chislehurst, Co. Kent, was born in 1878, and after leaving school he, too, went into the London milk supply business for a while, but the call of the land being strongly in his veins, he soon left London for dairy farming in the county of Surrey, and also in Kent, at Edenbridge, where *he gave his attention to the breeding of pedigree stock, in which he made a name for himself, not only as a breeder of Friesians, but as a judge. He became a well-known member of the National Farmers' Union, and acted in an official capacity very successfully for that organization.* For financial reasons, however, during the slump which came after the Great War, he crossed to Guernsey, and started tomato culture, in which pursuit his brother FRANK had been so successful upon this island. He soon found his niche in this new occupation, and is now launching out, benefiting much from his brother's long experience. He married in 1902 MARION ELLEN, daughter of JOHN HARMSWORTH of Petersfield, in the county of Hampshire, by whom he has three daughters :

- (1) CATHERINE, born 1904. Doing secretarial work.
- (2) LOUISA PHYLLIS, born 1906. Teaching.
- (3) ELIZABETH, born 1907. Poultry farming.

**WILFRED HIGGS**, the sixth son and youngest child of RICHARD and LOUISA HIGGS of Cold Harbour Farm, Chislehurst, Co. Kent, was born in 1882. It was originally intended that he should, upon leaving school, join his brother BENJAMIN in the coach-building and wheelwright's business, but after serving part of his apprenticeship in the works of Messrs. Alford & Alder his health failed, and again the call of the land came to this son of yeoman stock, and he started farming at Green-Street-Green, near Orpington, in the county of Kent. After six years there he went to Winchcombe Farm, Chilham, near Canterbury. However, after the World War the slump in agriculture had to be faced, and he decided to sit on his capital, and joined the United Dairies Ltd. as farm manager. He had charge of some six farms and 500 cows. This position he held for some seven years and then, when the farms were sold up, he with his wife RUBY CONSTANCE, another daughter of JOHN HARMSWORTH, farmer of Petersfield, Co. Hants, whom he had married in 1900, with their five children (three boys and two girls), sailed for South Africa in April, 1926, to settle on a 1200-acre farm which he had bought the previous autumn twelve miles from Salisbury, in Rhodesia. He arrived there in May, 1926, only to find





the same world slump conditions awaiting him to face. The names of his children are as follows :

- |                                    |                            |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. DAVID WILFRED HIGGS, born 1916. | (1) RUTH MARY, born 1914.  |
| 2. BARTON FRANK HIGGS, born 1919.  | (2) HELEN RUBY, born 1918. |
| 3. ARTHUR ROGER HIGGS, born 1922.  |                            |



BARTON	ARTHUR	HELEN	RUTH	DAVID
FRANK	ROGER	RUBY	MARY	WILFRED
HIGGS.	HIGGS.	HIGGS.	HIGGS.	HIGGS.

OUTSIDE THEIR SCHOOL-HOUSE IN RHODESIA.

The five daughters of RICHARD HIGGS by LOUISA HORNE his wife, of Cold Harbour Farm, Chislehurst, in the County of Kent, are as follows :

- (1) LOUISA, born in 1865. She died a spinster 10 March, 1927, and was buried in the family grave at Norwood Cemetery.
- (2) AMY, born in 1866. During the World War she was actively engaged in women's patrol work. She died at Winchelsea, a spinster, and was buried there 30 January, 1926.
- (3) ESTHER, the third daughter, was born in 1868. She also did patrol work during the Great War.
- (4) KATE, the fourth daughter, was born in 1872. She settled in Guernsey, in the Channel Islands, where her two brothers, FRANK and ARTHUR, are large and very successful glasshouse farmers.
- (5) GRACE, born in 1880, was the youngest daughter. During the World War she served in patrol work.

Such is the record of the family of RICHARD HIGGS by LOUISA HORNE, his wife, the second son of CALEB HIGGS of Cold Ash in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, later of Lambeth and Walworth and finally of Mitcham Lane, in the parish of Streatham, in the county of Surrey. Not only is it a record of this branch of a very large family, but *it provides a most interesting history of the growth and development of the supply of milk and dairy produce to the great Metropolis, in which members of this yeoman family have played no small a part.*





## CHAPTER X

## William Higgs of Lambeth

THE third son born to CALEB HIGGS and SARAH NASH his wife was WILLIAM HIGGS, who first saw the light of day at Ferry Street, Lambeth, 8 April, 1824. In his early boyhood his parents could not afford very much hired help, and outside of school hours their boys gladly gave a hand with the dairy herd at Lambeth. WILLIAM HIGGS often related the story of how his father would tap on the bedroom door at four or five o'clock on a winter's morning, and in stentorian tones call, "Boys, bundle up, tumble up; tumble up, bundle up", and, however bright the dream, or warm and comfortable the bed, out the "boys" had to tumble, dressing as quickly as they could, to go and milk the cows, and attend to the various needs of the dairy herd. "Each son seems to have had his own allotted task, for the performance of which he received a small weekly wage," so we learn from the excellent account of the life of WILLIAM HIGGS, written by his daughter SARAH NASH HIGGS, shortly after his decease, especially for his grandchildren. To pump the water for the cows was one of the duties which was allotted to this third son. He soon found out that this was harder work than he cared for, and with an active brain he set to work to make a contrivance by means of which this task was made considerably easier. His eldest brother, CALEB, used to relate that the apparatus, rudely contrived and finished, was in fact a real success and answered very well. The water was drawn much more quickly, and his father, noting the fact, proposed—no doubt with a twinkle in his eye—that since the work was lessened the pay should be lowered too. "Oh, no," was WILLIAM's reply, "the invention was mine, and I ought to reap the benefit of it." Upon another occasion one of the cows he had to milk had the trying habit of whisking its tail at the youthful WILLIAM's head, and again his active brain conceived the idea of tying a heavy weight to the tail to overcome the annoyance. Another story is related of how he—realizing that there is a good deal of truth in the adage, "There is more done by scheming than hard work"—schemed to make a few extra pence for himself by purchasing buttons and offering them to his mother at a small margin of profit. To this proposal we learn that his mother readily agreed, but it is also related that she made little use of the buttons, treasuring them as a reminder of the bright, eager boy who was always planning to succeed in life.

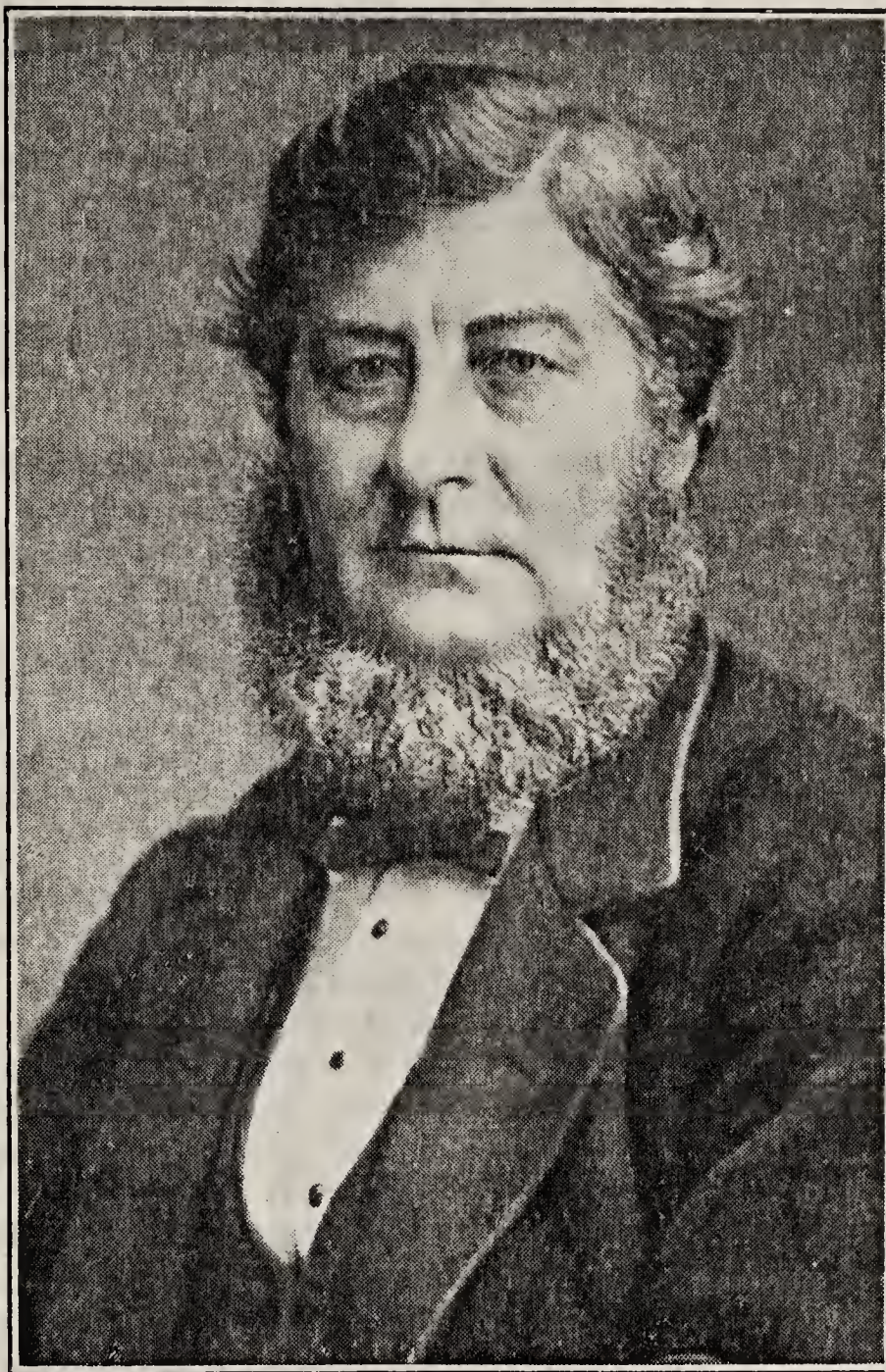
He was by no means brilliant at school. Lessons involved too much sitting still for one who loved to be ever on the move. He was first sent to a private school conducted by the minister of the old Methodist Chapel, near Marshgate, Lambeth, held in the vestry of the chapel, later known by the name of Regent Street Chapel. Upon his parents removing to Walworth he was sent to Rodney House School, kept by a Mr. ROBINSON of the New Kent Road. Mr. ROBINSON was a worthy man, liked and respected by his pupils, who with genuine schoolboy love of nickname, commonly styled him "Old Rodney". According to Miss SARAH NASH HIGGS's 'Memorials of WILLIAM HIGGS' we learn:







"The authority exercised was of the very mildest type ; the kindhearted schoolmaster had evidently little, or no, faith in the use of the cane, and the method of punishment most commonly adopted was a command given to the youthful delinquent to write out a dozen verses from the Bible, the selection of the passage being left to the transgressor's own choice. Whether WILLIAM was in disgrace more often than the others of his school-fellows we cannot say, but at any rate he always chose the first twelve verses in the third



*Wm Higgs*

WILLIAM HIGGS OF LAMBETH AND OF WARDEN COURT, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, KENT (1824-1883).

chapter of Lamentations, commencing with the words, 'I am the man that hath seen affliction by the rod of his wrath' and it must have been written a good many times, for in after years, if trying a pen, he would generally write mechanically, 'I am the man that hath seen affliction, etc.'. His sense of humour no doubt led him to look upon these verses as especially appropriate, although he used to say that the choice was largely determined by their brevity. Of his school life, however, we know but little ; notwithstanding the punishments he managed to take a prize which was a book entitled "Isaac





Watts on the Mind', bound in morocco. Of this book he always thought a good deal though the probability is that he never once read it through. There were, however, a few lines in it which pleased him much, and which he often repeated to his children in after years. We believe that they exercised a strong and salutary influence over him throughout his life, and therefore quote them here :

' Nor let soft slumber close your eyes,  
Before you've recollected thrice  
The train of action through the day—  
Where have my feet chose out their way ?  
What have I learnt where'er I've been ?  
From all I've heard, from all I've seen ?  
What know I more that's worth the knowing ?  
What have I done that's worth the doing ?  
What have I sought that I should shun ?  
What duty have I left undone ?  
Or into what new follies run ?  
These self inquiries are the road  
That leads to virtue and to God '."

WILLIAM HIGGS left school in 1837, and for a short time found employment in a printer's office. He had, however, set his mind upon becoming a builder, like his uncle JOSHUA HIGGS, and he became apprenticed to him. Concerning his personal character at this time we give the words of a fellow apprentice to show how he was regarded :

" He was very circumspect in his conduct on all occasions ; possessing a most serene and agreeable temper, which his fellow apprentices could in no wise ruffle, though they very often made the attempt. As one of them I must say that I never met a youth so steady, and so opposed to frivolity in every shape ; yet he had a very cheerful disposition under all circumstances ".

A love of buying and selling, and getting gain, was undoubtedly a marked feature of his character even from boyhood ; but "*Fair play is a jewel*" was a favourite proverb with him, embodying a principle which he, at no time, lost sight of, and which helped him, while studying his own advantage, also to give due attention to the interests of others. In his youth and early manhood it is related that " his friends seem to have been afraid lest this love should have been allowed to grow too strong ". However, a remark made by his eldest brother CALEB to CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON, the great Nonconformist preacher, not long after WILLIAM HIGGS had decided to join the church worshipping at New Park Street, clearly shows that his religion had made a very real impression upon his character : "*What ! has William given you £5 for the work ? Well, that shows he's a converted man ; for he wouldn't have done it once*".

A fixed purpose to commence in business on his own made him most careful of every penny he spent. An amusing story showing his determination in this respect is related of him :

" His uncle one day, wishing him to accompany a cousin to some place she intended to reach by omnibus, gave him sixpence with which to pay his fare. But it was much too valuable thus to be thrown away ; so pocketing the money, he saw his cousin safely into the omnibus, and then ran the whole way, keeping pace with the vehicle till it reached its destination " !

By the time he had reached twenty-one years of age he had managed to save £50. This sum, though small in itself, was large to him, and was probably to a large extent the result of work he had done in overtime. He heard that a Mr. CAPPS, of Bishop's Road, Bayswater, wanted to dispose of his business as an upholsterer and undertaker, and he





PEDIGREE of CHARLTON of NORTHAMPTON - Showing the ancestry of -

LETITIA-ANN CHARLTON wife of WILLIAM HIGGS, ESQUIRE, of  
LAMBETH & of WARDEN COURT, ISLE of SHEPPEY.

*The first record of one of this name in NORTHAMPTON is that of SIMON CHARLETON or CHARLTON (born about 1485) as witness to a local deed he was Serjeant to the Corporation & also Sexton of ALL SAINTS' PARISH CHURCH he died in 1567 aged 82. VIDE: HISTORY of the BOROUGH of NORTHAMPTON by REV. J. C. COX, LL.D., F.S.A.*  
*One THOMAS CHARLTON, or CHALTON, probably a son of SIMON, b. about 1501, was in 1549 (2. Ed. VI) "at the age of 48" appointed a "Singing Man" (Query: Crier)*

CHARLETON = MARGARETA = RAPHAELL  
 or CHARLTON CHARLTON HELYAR  
 of FROM WHOM de COURTENHALL de COURTENHALL  
 m: at ALL SAINTS NORTHAMPTON 1587

BARTHOLOMEW = ANN  
 CHARLETON, or CHARLTON of NORTHAMPTON bur: in ALL SAINTS' CH. Yd., 24 DEC. 1747.

BARTHOLOMEW = ELIZABETH = ESTHER = WILL<sup>m</sup>  
 CHARLTON living in the Parish of ALL SAINTS - NORTHAMPTON 1717. In n. keeper & victualler bur: 14 MAR. 1755. Maiden name not known but it may have been COLLINGS as one RICHARD COLLINGS of HILLMORTON CO. WARWICK was Exor. with one PETER DUNKLEY of NORTHAMPTON to BARTHOLOMEW's Will. SHERMAN. mar. at ALL SAINTS' CH. 1729.

GEORGE CHARLTON of NORTHAMPTON In business as a Cooper bur: 28 JULY 1754  
 HANNAH Note: In 1886 CLEAVER {a RICHARD CLEAVER } MARY born 4<sup>th</sup> MAY  
 mar. at ALL SAINTS PARISH CH., NORTHAMPTON 1717  
 14 JULY 1744 She died 1753 (bur: 15 JUNE)  
 he mar. 2ndly MARY MOORE (a JOHN MOORE was Mayor's Serjeant in 1722)

MARTHA WILLSON = GEORGE CHARLTON = MARY.... BARTHOLOMEW THOMAS  
 mar: at ALL SAINTS CH. NORTHAMPTON. born: 17 OCT. } 1746 her Maiden name b. 8 JAN. b. 22 MAR.  
 22 SEPT. 1771 bapt: 12 NOV. } ALL SAINTS PARISH is said to have bapt: 6 FEB. bapt: 14 APR.  
 in the presence of. he succeeded to his father's business in the Coopering trade. been DICKENS 1749/50 1751  
 WILLIAM EMERTON & BRIDGET VORES THOMAS DICKENS of PASSENHAM who mar. MARY GUDGEON in the Ch. of St John Baptist NORTHAMPTON 23 APR 1702  
 ISABELLA ANN born: 15 JUNE b. 17 APR  
 bapt: 28 . bapt: 17 MAY 1748.

GEORGE WILLIAM GEORGE GEORGE CHARLTON = LETITIA dau. ANNE MARY ANNE  
 b. 3 JAN. b. 20 JUNE b. 14<sup>th</sup>. Third son of the name of CHARLES b. 12 JAN. b. 4 APR. b. 1 JUNE  
 bapt: 4<sup>th</sup>. 1777 bapt: 19<sup>th</sup> and youngest son & ANN FOILE 1776 1779 1781  
 FEB 1774 bapt: 8 OCT. JULY born: JULY 1784 or FOYLE of died in bapt: 3<sup>rd</sup> bapt: 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Ob. Inf. 1777 1783 bapt: 2 FEB. 1785 SIDMOUTH CO. DEVON. Infancy May 1779 JUNE 1781  
 at ALL SAINTS Ob. Inf. at ALL SAINTS' CHURCH Northampton. Northampton. Northampton.  
 NORTHAMPTON Settled in London early in life & retired from business about the age of 40  
 Ob. 3. FEB. 1880 at: 96 years  
 Will dated 7 June 1862 pr. 21 Feb 1880  
 PPR LONDON 540,000.0.0

GEORGE GEORGE CHARLES ELIZA CHARLOTTE MARY LETITIA WILLIAM CARO LOUISA  
 Ob. Inf: CHARLTON born: 12 MAR 1815 died 1901 born: 17 JAN. 1823. MAR 1817 born: 11 JAN 1810 31 JAN. 1821 born: 31 JAN 1825 born: 1 JAN 1831  
 at SOUTHEND CO. ESSEX of RAMSGATE CO KENT m: THOS WALL 1848 m: 5 APR. 1827 m: Wm. WHITE Oxford ST. LONDON.  
 OLIVER CHARLTON (only child) 12 daughters





agreed to take the premises at a rental of £25 per annum. The upholstering and undertaking business did not at all appeal to him, and he soon devoted his whole attention to building. He had many ups and downs in the early days of his career as a builder and contractor, and experienced many anxious Saturdays, when wages of workmen had to be met, but having the full confidence of many real friends, he always managed to tide over the worrying times, and gradually *built up a business which earned a reputation for splendid workmanship throughout London and the surrounding counties.*

Commencing business for himself in 1845, he, three years later, on 5 April, 1848, at Holy Trinity Church, Marylebone, married LETITIA ANN, the fourth daughter of Mr. GEORGE CHARLTON of St. John's Wood, London, by LETITIA, daughter of CHARLES and ANN FOYLE of Sidmouth, Co. Devon, his wife.

GEORGE CHARLTON had settled in London from Daventry, near Northampton, about the same time as JOSHUA and CALEB HIGGS had left Cold Ash for the great Metropolis, and at a time when a number of young men from the country came to try their fortunes in London. He was the youngest son of Mr. GEORGE CHARLTON, who was in a good way of business near Daventry as a cooper, and was born 14 July, 1784, and baptized at All Saints' Church, Northampton 2 February, 1785. Upon arriving in London by coach he had but 2s. 6d. left in his pocket and the small amount of baggage he carried with him, which included a favourite pair of buckskin riding breeches, which breeches he afterwards pawned in order to go to a play being given at one of the London theatres—a fact he always regretted in after life. Not knowing what to do to get a living in the great city, he went into a baker's shop where he noticed the sign "Boy Wanted" and he secured the job, and by close attention to duty he rose until he was made foreman of that bakery concern, and afterwards was able to own it. He met his wife LETITIA FOYLE in London and married her at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields 5 April, 1812, when she was twenty-seven years of age, and LETITIA ANN, their seventh child and fourth daughter, was born 31 January, 1825. GEORGE CHARLTON had been so successful in business that he was able to retire at about forty years of age, just about the time of LETITIA ANN's birth. He was a great lover of horses and drove his own carriage and pair round Hyde Park, as well as riding in Rotten Row. He lived to the advanced age of ninety-six years, dying 3 February, 1880, and left about £40,000. (Will proved P.P.R. London 21 February, 1880. Executors: WILLIAM WHITE, THOMAS WALL, ROBERT MILLER & WILLIAM HIGGS, sons-in-law.) *Such was the remarkable career of LETITIA ANN HIGGS's father.* At the commencement of their married life WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS lived in the New Road, Marylebone, and whilst residing there attended the Congregational Chapel, where a Mr. STRATTEN ministered. Upon removing to Lambeth in 1852, they attended the Wesleyan Chapel of that neighbourhood, where a number of their relations were in membership. But "*Spurgeon, the boy preacher*", not long afterwards became the topic of the day, and one Sunday morning WILLIAM HIGGS proposed to his cousin ROBERT MILLER, who was also a brother-in-law of his wife, he having married CHARLOTTE CHARLTON, that they should go together and hear this remarkable young preacher who had become so popular, and who was attracting great crowds in London. They went, and it was upon that occasion, we are told, that WILLIAM HIGGS became seriously interested in spiritual matters, and as he admitted later in life to a cousin, "Mr. Spurgeon is the only minister who keeps bricks and mortar out of my head" during public worship.

He attended the New Park Street Chapel regularly from that time on, and in the year 1856 received a letter from CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON with the following intimation:

"I beg to inform you, that at a meeting of the Church at New Park Street, you were appointed as one of a committee to confer on the best course of action for providing increased accommodation for the congregation who assemble with us".







GEORGE CHARLTON, 1784-1880, YOUNGEST  
SON OF GEORGE AND MARY CHARLTON  
OF NORTHAMPTON.



LETITIA FOYLE, 1785- —, DAUGHTER OF  
CHARLES AND ANN FOYLE OF SIDMOUTH,  
CO. DEVON.



LETITIA ANN CHARLTON, WIFE OF WILLIAM HIGGS OF LAMBETH AND WARDEN COURT,  
ISLE OF SHEPPEY 1825-1922









STAINED GLASS WINDOW ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF WILLIAM HIGGS, ESQ., IN THE BOARD ROOM OF THE SPURGEON ORPHAN HOMES, STOCKWELL, LONDON.





Two years later WILLIAM HIGGS joined this church by baptism, and was admitted into membership, and from that time up to his decease became a very close and intimate friend of CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON, the builder of the Metropolitan Tabernacle at Newington Butts, and a large contributor to its erection; he was with a Mrs. ANNE HILLYARD and CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON, *co-founder of the Spurgeon Orphan Homes at Stockwell*, of which institution he acted as Treasurer until his decease, when a stained glass window was placed in the Board Room to his memory depicting the scene of the founding of these Orphan Homes, when Mrs. ANNE HILLYARD paid over to WILLIAM HIGGS as Treasurer £20,000.

When about the age of thirty-five WILLIAM HIGGS was carrying out as much work as any builder and contractor in London at that period, and the following large works were in course of progress under his supervision almost simultaneously:

*The Guards Barracks at Chelsea, the Royal Marine Infirmary at Woolwich, the Metropolitan Tabernacle, and the various Office of Works contracts*, and it was said of him that—"No employer was more respected, for he was fair, and honourable, in all his dealings, and always had the welfare of his men at heart".

From the commencement of his business career right down to the period of its close the old Duke of Portland was a kind and generous patron. Whatever he may or may not have been in his own immediate circle, he was certainly "eccentric" to those outside of it. Many an odd tale about him was carried home by WILLIAM HIGGS to the amusement of his children. One of these stories as told in SARAH NASH HIGGS'S 'Memorials of William Higgs' may be related here:

"It should be known that the old duke was very, very shy; and although he took an active interest in the work, and liked to see how it was going on when the builder was not there, he had a real horror of being at any time seen by him. One morning he was sitting in a room through which it was absolutely necessary for the builder to pass, in order to reach that part of the house where alterations were being made. He was, therefore, obliged to go through the apartment, while the duke could not leave it without meeting him. He did not wish to be seen poor man; and yet, what was he to do? A bright thought came to his help, and acting upon it, he jumped into a cupboard, like a jack-in-the-box, and did not get out till he was once more free from the danger of being looked at by so unwelcome a visitor! All his orders were given by means of writing, which was sometimes so hard to read, that our father found it very difficult to make out what he meant. One of these letters was one day taken home and the united efforts of those who tried to read it only resulted in the discovery of what two words were intended for. For fifteen years our father never once saw him, and then the two happened to meet accidentally upon the staircase. This broke the ice, and from that time personal interviews were often granted, and sometimes they were of such long duration, that the poor builder's patience was pretty well worn out. One who was foreman with him, tells us, that once, when there was work being done upon the estate at Welbeck, some of the men employed were unable to get lodgings anywhere near at hand, and were consequently obliged to find accommodation at a distance, and to take a long walk backwards and forwards every night and morning. The duke, hearing of this, was greatly concerned by it and at once provided a number of donkeys for their use. With all his peculiarities he had a kindly disposition, and he was a true friend to the young builder whom he employed for so long; he would at times pay down a thousand pounds or more *in advance*, and when reminded that the money was not yet earned, would reply that it did not matter, as he knew he could trust him and it would be something to go on with".

Besides all the work carried out for the DUKE OF PORTLAND, WILLIAM HIGGS, in 1865, obtained the contract for the erection of a stone bridge at Frogmore, connecting the *Royal Mausoleum of the late Prince Consort with that of the Duchess of Kent*. He also built St. Thomas's Hospital, London, commencing the work in 1868 and completing it in 1871, and later he became a *Life Governor of that institution*. "His natural generosity always came to the front when he happened to be the successful candidate for works





in connection with philanthropic objects. The *Royal Orphan Asylum at Watford*, and the *Royal Albert Orphan Asylum at Bagshot* are both witnesses to this fact", so stated the 'Building News' of 19 January, 1883, just after his decease. This obituary was no mere flattery, for he had contributed largely to both of these institutions, and for many others of a kindred character he had shown his sympathy in the same practical way. As a Life Governor of St. Thomas's Hospital he took a very keen interest therein and made a practice of regularly attending the meetings of the Board of Governors. He warmly advocated a plan of opening a part of the hospital for the reception of paying patients, and this was approved, wards became occupied and of service to the hospital which would otherwise have remained empty for want of funds.

One instance in the life of WILLIAM HIGGS must not be omitted here, for it clearly shows his worth and true character.

"When the church at Southwark removed to Newington, it was decided by the pastor and deacons that the old Park Street property should be sold by auction. This plan was put into the right train of action, and the date of the auction fixed, Mr. HIGGS being requested to attend at the mart for the protection of the sale. He had before valued the property at a given sum, saying that he did not think it likely to fetch very much more. But to the surprise of those friends who were also present, when this sum was reached, he himself put in a bid at a still higher figure and ran up the amount until the property was knocked down to him at a price considerably greater than that which he had in the first instance named. He was, of course, joked a little about his 'bargain' but he quietly replied that it would no doubt prove a good one. And so it did; for not very long afterwards he went to Mr. SPURGEON with the news that he had sold the place at a profit of £500, adding that he had brought the money with him, as he could not, himself, think of keeping it".

And so he continually helped and assisted the church of which he was a member and a deacon.

As a *Guardian of the Poor for the Parish of Lambeth for twenty-one years, and for some years Chairman of that Board*, his twofold aim was to serve the ratepayers honestly, and to give faithful protection to the interest of the poor. "Jobbery" disgusted him, and he resolutely took stand against it when, at any time, it seemed inclined to show itself. While the drunken and "loafing" pauper found but little sympathy, the respectable and deserving poor met with nothing but kindly consideration and practical goodwill. 'The South London Press,' a local newspaper accustomed to report the doings of the board of guardians, once wrote of WILLIAM HIGGS as "*a man of unimpeachable honour and rectitude*".

He early removed from Marylebone, his first home, to Lambeth, and from Lambeth WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS made their home at Stockwell, in 1858, where he bought a small estate from JOHN GLADSTONE, Esqre., of the same family as the great statesman WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE, and resided in the house known as "Stockwell Lodge". Part of this estate he soon afterwards sold to the London, Chatham & Dover Railway Company, let off a further portion, and lived in the remainder for some years. Later this was sold, and the Smallpox and Fever Hospital was erected upon the site. He then purchased "Kenyon House", a fine old residential estate between the Bedford Road in Clapham and Acre Lane in Brixton. This estate he eventually sold in building leases, feeling that its upkeep would be an unnecessary burden upon his wife in the event of his decease, and he then moved to Gwydyr House, a substantial residential property on Brixton Hill, where he lived until his decease.

Notwithstanding all his activities in London, WILLIAM HIGGS revelled in country life—an instinct unquestionably inherited from his yeoman ancestry—and so it was that he came to purchase the Manor of Warden with its several farms in the Isle of Sheppey, a most picturesque spot with its ancient elms and old Elizabethan house. Here he spent





many a happy time and enjoyed, with his sons, the fine shooting over the estate. As Lord of the Manor he had some litigation over the foreshore rights, claiming the manor right to certain stones found in the cliffs and along the shore which were being taken by certain cement merchants. Among the tenantry was a man named BARRETT, who worked hard all the week in the collection of these stones for the merchants, and on Sunday was the local preacher at the little wooden Nonconformist meeting-house on the estate. The merchants put it up to BARRETT to either suppress the truth altogether in his evidence in court, or be dismissed from their service, all along this coast apart from that portion which came under the jurisdiction of the Manor of Warden. This was a great temptation to BARRETT, who was a poor man with a family, but he faithfully gave correct evidence and took his dismissal. The new lord of the manor, hearing about



WARDEN COURT, ISLE OF SHEPPEY, CO. KENT. THE ELIZABETHAN MANOR HOUSE AND COUNTRY RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM HIGGS.

this, went to see BARRETT, and said that he quite realized the value that his evidence had been to him in winning his case, and asked what he could do for him. BARRETT requested that *the Meeting House might be rebuilt*, and not only did WILLIAM HIGGS do this, but became a *generous supporter to BARRETT and that little Nonconformist cause*. WILLIAM HIGGS was greatly beloved and respected throughout the estate. During the World War the Government used the old house for officers' quarters, and the whole estate was taken for defence purposes along the coast. Many of the ancient elms were cut down, and much of the natural beauty of the scene was completely destroyed.

The estate was eventually sold by the family to a building syndicate and to-day numerous dwellings have been built, and the old Elizabethan house is now used as an hotel, and designated "The Manor House Hotel".

WILLIAM HIGGS was a comparatively young man when he died 3 January, 1883, being but 59 years of age. For some few years prior to his death he experienced





much internal pain and suffering, which he bore with the greatest fortitude. This was caused by internal ulcers on the stomach, and he was advised to visit Carlsbad and take the special waters of that German town, with very beneficial results, and had he continued the treatment longer his life might have been saved, but that was not known until after the post-mortem examination made to see just what had been the cause of his suffering and death. It was not to be. His day of service and usefulness was ended, and he was called away to a greater service in the Life Beyond.

His death was a great blow to the family, to the church, and to the many philanthropic institutions with which he was connected, and many were the letters of deep and real sympathy received by his sorrowing widow and family from architects, surveyors,



SHOOTING PARTY AT WARDEN COURT, ISLE OF SHEPPEY (TAKEN IN 1907).

*Reading Left to Right.—Back Row:* HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS, GEORGE POWELL, JUN. (BEATER), GEORGE POWELL (GAME-KEEPER).

*Middle Row:* FRANK GOTELEE, OF MIDSTFAD, CO. HANTS; WILLIAM HIGGS, OF STOCKWELL, CO. SURREY; GEORGE HIGGS, NOW OF HOVE, CO. SUSSEX.

*Front Row:* ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS, NOW OF SURBITON-ON-THAMES; WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS, FOR 23 YEARS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA; FREDERICK GOTELEE (KILLED IN THE WORLD WAR).

ministers of all denominations, and employees, who realized not so much the loss of an employer, as the loss of *a very real friend to whom they could turn in any of their troubles*. His remains were laid to rest on the top of the slope of Norwood Cemetery, in his own family grave, next that of his father and mother, and upon that very slope over which his father's dairy herds had grazed in the years gone by.

His widow, LETITIA ANN HIGGS, lived on at Gwydyr House, Brixton Hill, for thirty-nine years after his decease, when she passed into the Life Beyond, 9 November, 1922, aged 97, wonderfully clear in all her faculties until the last. Her remains were laid to rest in the family grave at Norwood. She became a member of the Metropolitan Tabernacle Church in 1862. For a few years of her life she was a member of





the Ladies' Committee of the Orphan Homes at Stockwell, and took a keen interest in the work of that institution, which had been so dear to the heart of her husband. *The quiet, timid, devoted, completely unselfish, simple-hearted and saintly example of LETITIA ANN HIGGS lives on in the hearts and memories of those who have the privilege of claiming her as "Grandmother" !*

WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS had no less a family than three sons and twelve daughters born to them, and notwithstanding giving all these children the advantages of a good education, and their father's wonderful generosity in life to both religious and philanthropic work, when he passed away at so comparatively young an age he left a fortune of nearly £250,000. The very fact of having had so many children WILLIAM HIGGS always claimed was the cause of his success in life, for he had applied himself in business life in a way he would not have done had he not been blessed in this way. Although commencing in business for himself in 1845, it would appear that he spent some time as an apprentice of his uncle JAMES RANDALL NASH, as on 31 October, 1850, a little over two years after his marriage, he was, during the Mayoralty of THOMAS FAIRCLOMB, Esqre., admitted into the Freedom of the City of London (14 Queen Victoria), which Freedom was of material benefit to him in work he did within the City. He was a member of the Shipwrights' Company, and those of his sons who chose to take up their Freedom could do so on the ground they had been born as Freemen.

The family of WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS are as follow :

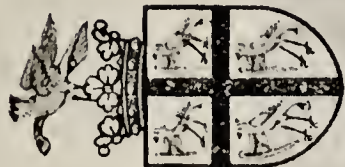
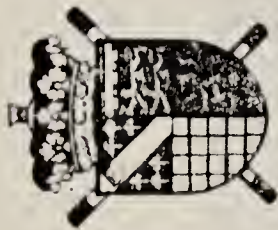
1. **WILLIAM HIGGS**, born 16 May, 1852 (of whom later).
2. **GEORGE HIGGS**, the second son, residing at 59, New Church Road, Hove, Co. Sussex, was born 4 December, 1858. He was sent to a good boys' school at Mill Hill, Hendon, Co. Middlesex, and after leaving there went into his father's business, but later branched out in life on his own as a coal merchant, with offices at the Crown Wharf, Deptford, and did well. It was he who, in 1929, long after his retirement from business life and after having settled some years at Hove, near Brighton, in Sussex, signed a memorial to the Earl Marshal of England, His Grace the DUKE OF NORFOLK, on the instigation of his nephew, W. MILLER HIGGS, as touching *the right to the use of the ancient coat of arms used by the HIGGS family of South Stoke and NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick by Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks.* Owing to the break in the actual line of descent between JAMES HIGGS of Thatcham and the earlier members of the family settled in that place, the right to the original arms could not be established, but all the circumstantial evidence being so strong, *Letters Patent were granted for their use to all the descendants of GEORGE HIGGS's grandfather, CALEB HIGGS, of Cold Ash, Berks, and Mitcham in the county of Surrey, with the slight addition of a Tudor Rose on the base of the neck of the Stag's head in the crest, and on the apex of the chevron in the Shield of arms, the tudor rose recalling the fact that the original arms were in use by one SIMON HIGGS (SYMOND HEGGYS) in Tudor times.* The pedigree of the family was entered up in the books of the College of Arms at this time.

The Letters Patent assigned to GEORGE HIGGS, Gentleman, of New Church Road, in the Borough of Hove, in the County of Sussex, and to all the descendants of his grandfather, CALEB HIGGS, late of Mitcham, in the County of Surrey, and of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, under date of 6 December, 1929, reads as follows :

" TO ALL AND SINGULAR to whom these Presents shall come Sir HENRY FARNHAM BURKE, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath Garter Principal King of Arms, and ARTHUR WILLIAM STEUART COCHRANE, Esquire, Member of the Royal Victorian Order Clarenceux King of Arms, Send Greeting ; WHEREAS GEORGE HIGGS of New Church Road in the Borough of Hove and County of Sussex, Gentleman, second son of WILLIAM HIGGS late of Lambeth in the County of Surrey, Gentleman, Lord of the Manor of Warden in the Isle of Sheppey and County of Kent,







# ALL AND SINGULAR

[illegible]

卷之六

Arthur Wellesley

Clarence





a Governor of St. Thomas' Hospital, London, deceased, who was third son of CALEB HIGGS, late of Mitcham, in the County of Surrey, and of Cold Ash in the Parish of Thatcham, in the County of Berks, Gentleman, also deceased, hath represented unto The Most Noble BERNARD MARMADUKE, DUKE OF NORFOLK, Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England, that being desirous of having Armorial Bearings duly established and recorded to him under lawful authority, he therefore requested the favour of His Grace's Warrant for Our granting and assigning such Arms and Crest as may be proper to be borne and used by him and his descendants and by the other descendants of his Grandfather the said CALEB HIGGS, deceased, according to the Laws of Arms. AND FORASMUCH as the said Earl Marshal did by Warrant under his hand and seal bearing date the thirtieth day of September last authorize and direct Us to grant and assign such Armorial Ensigns accordingly

"KNOW YE THEREFORE that the said Garter and Clarenceux in pursuance of His Grace's Warrant and by virtue of the Letters Patent of our several Offices to each of Us respectively granted do by these Presents grant and assign unto the said GEORGE HIGGS the Arms following that is to say:—ARGENT, on a Chevron between three Stags lodged GULES a Rose of the Field barbed and seeded Proper. And for the Crest on a Wreath of the Colours—A Stag's Head GULES, attired OR, Pierced through the Neck with an Arrow in Bend PROPER, Flighted ARGENT, Head downwards GOLD, and Charged with a Rose as in the Arms, as the same are in the margin hereof more plainly depicted to be borne and used for ever hereafter by him the said GEORGE HIGGS and his descendants and the other descendants of his Grandfather the said CALEB HIGGS, deceased, with due and proper differences according to the Laws of Arms.

"IN WITNESS whereof We the said Garter and Clarenceux Kings of Arms have to these Presents subscribed Our names and affixed the Seals of our several Offices this sixth day of December in the twentieth year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord GEORGE the FIFTH by the Grace of God of Great Britain Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas King Defender of the Faith, etc., and in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty nine."

(Signed)

(Signed)

H. FARNHAM BURKE

ARTHUR COCHRANE

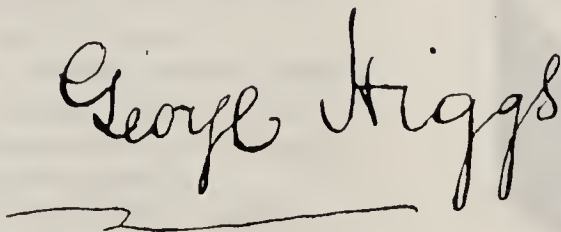
Garter.

Clarenceux.

Seal.

Seal.

Signature of GEORGE HIGGS of Hove, Co. Sussex.



GEORGE HIGGS married 4 May, 1885, ALICE KATIE, the fourth daughter of THOMAS GREENWOOD, Esq., of "Xophil", South Sydenham Park, by CAROLINE STANSBURY, daughter of the Rev. BENJAMIN ISSAC, his wife. She was born 4 May, 1864, and so was married upon her twenty-first birthday. Upon her father's side she is descended from the GREENWOODS of Kirkby Lonsdale, in the county of Westmorland. "Box Tree House," in that parish, was in the family from 1596 until 1819. The ancient house was added to at a later date, and is now known by the name of "Lupton Towers". Her mother came from the well-known Devonshire family of ISAAC, the Rev. BENJAMIN ISAAC being sixth in





descent from NICHOLAS ISAAC, Mayor of Exeter in 1665 and a descendant of the first SEBASTIAN ISAAC, to whom the family arms were granted in 1236 (temp. Henry III). There is a tradition that the family settled in Devonshire from Brakesbourne in the county of Kent, taking up residence first at Ottery St. Mary. According to a record in the British Museum one of the family, THOMAS ISAAC, went from Devon up into the North to fight for KING ROBERT, the Bruce, in 1353, and married his daughter MAUD, and their son, JOHN ISAAC, later returned to Devonshire. Another branch of the family settled at Boughton in Worcestershire. There is a record in the British Museum that on 29 April, 1669, MARY, the daughter of SEBASTIAN ISAAC of Polsloe Heavitree (near Exeter) married GEORGE PRESTWOOD of Butterford, and in 1715 ELIZABETH PRESTWOOD married SIR BARNARD DRAKE of Herebear in Beckington. Most of the ISAACS seem to have resided in or about Exeter, chiefly at Widworthy and Polsloe. In St. Cuthbert's Church at Widworthy three and a half miles from Honiton) is a large monument to ALICE, wife of SEBASTIAN ISAAC, 1685, and their three children, and THOMAS ISAAC of Honiton, who was in business there as a woolstapler (the father of the Rev. BENJAMIN ISAAC), and who married CATHERINE CLASH, was a descendant of the Widworthy branch. CATHERINE CLASH, who became the Rev. BENJAMIN ISAAC's mother, was a descendant of the family of Sir FRANCIS DRAKE, and inherited a cup which the famous English naval commander had with him upon his voyage round the world. This is of oak, bound in silver, and is at present held by Mr. HARRY ALLEN, who married one of the daughters of the Rev. BENJAMIN ISAAC. The Rev. BENJAMIN ISAAC married twice, first to one of the ancient family of BEVILL of the Isle of Ely, and secondly to MARY LEE, nicknamed "Merrily" because of her merry and happy disposition. She became the mother of ALICE KATIE GREENWOOD. The following family of five sons and one daughter have been born to GEORGE and ALICE KATIE HIGGS:

- I. GEORGE NORMAN HIGGS, born 11 August, 1886, at Upton Cottage, Upper Tulse Hill, London, S.W. He married NANCY HAYDEN, and by her has one daughter:

- I. PATRICIA ALICE, born 4 May, 1920.

GEORGE NORMAN HIGGS made his home at Harpenden, Co. Herts, where he carries on a business as a chromium plater.

2. ALEC STANSBURY HIGGS, born 9 May, 1890, at Upton Cottage, Upper Tulse Hill, London, now of Hove, Sussex. He is the writer of a number of novels under the nom-de-plume of "Alec Stansbury" and a publisher trading under the well-known name of Alston Rivers, Ltd., of Water House, Bedford Street, Strand, London. Among his books may be mentioned 'Cupid Painted Blind', 'Not in the Earthquake', 'Silent Dominion', etc.

3. LESLIE GREENWOOD HIGGS of Cullinghurst Farm, in Cowden, Co. Kent,



CREST OF  
THE ISAACS  
of EXETER &  
HEAVITREE  
CO. DEVON.



THE ARMS OF  
THOMAS ISAAC who mar.  
PRINCESS MAUD dau. of  
ROBERT THE BRUCE.





born 17 November, 1892. He married KATHLEEN BRAZIER, by whom he has one son :

1. MICHAEL GEORGE HIGGS, born 6 January, 1921.

During the World War LESLIE GREENWOOD HIGGS held a Commission in the Northumberland Hussars, B.E.F. On 1 January, 1929, he met with a severe accident. Whilst riding his horse reared and fell upon him, crushing the pelvic bones ; he was taken to the Tonbridge Hospital, where he developed pneumonia, pleurisy and jaundice, and hope of his life was almost given up. However, some three months later he was able to be removed to the Orthopaedic Hospital in Great Portland Street, London. There he again developed pneumonia and his condition was such that the bone specialist could not operate. He was eventually discharged with his bones all wrongly set and knit together. Notwithstanding this fact he has made a most marvellous recovery, and though crippled, he is now (1930) able to ride his horse and superintend his farming operations.

4. HENRY ALLISON GERALD HIGGS of 59, New Church Road, Hove, Co. Sussex, was born 11 August, 1901. He is in business as a hat manufacturer and a member of the firm of Ransom, Squires & Higgs, Ltd., Luton
5. CHARLTON HIGGS, born 19 August, 1909. He commenced business life as an electrical engineer in connection with the Columbia Graphophone Co., and later started on his own as a radio manufacturer under the name of "Higgs Great Britain, Ltd.", at Westbourne Place, Hove, and a very fine machine is being made.

- (1) CAROLINE FREDA, the only daughter of GEORGE and ALICE KATIE HIGGS, was born 27 June, 1894. She married WILFRED THOMAS PASSMORE, the elder son of JAMES EDWARD PASSMORE, Esq., of the well-known firm of publishers, Alabaster, Passmore & Sons, and a descendant of the old Devonshire family settled at Passmore Hayes in that county since 1440. By him she has two sons :

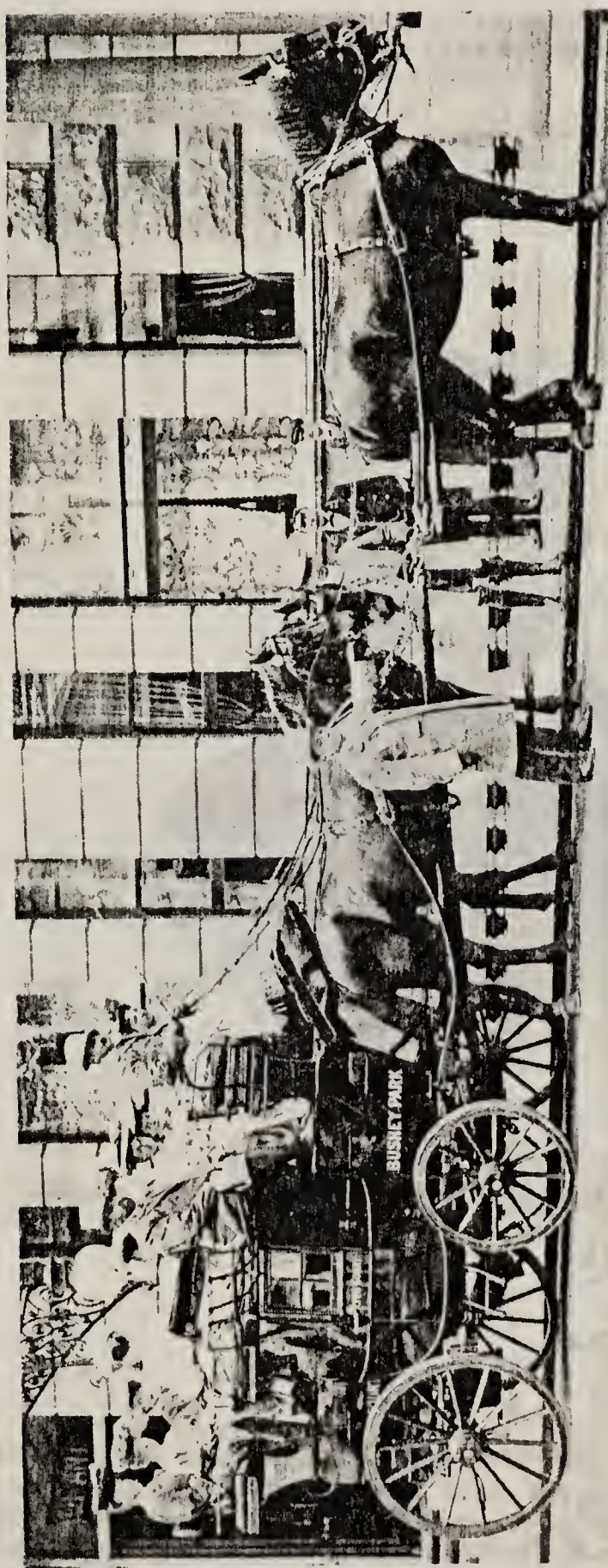
1. ROY PASSMORE, born 27 December, 1915.
2. DENNIS PASSMORE, born 11 December, 1919.

3. HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS, the third son of WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS, was born at Stockwell Lodge, 18 November, 1865. He was educated at Sonthey's School, Ramsgate, Kent, and after leaving school entered his father's business, later joining his cousin, FREDERICK HIGGS, with premises at Herne Hill, where they carried on a very successful business as builders and contractors in London. HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS never married. He was a great lover of horses, and took a great interest in coaching, subscribing liberally to the upkeep of more than one coach running to and from London with the privilege of driving. He was considered one of the best, if not the best, amateur whips among the gentlemen drivers in London, whether tandem, or four-in-hand. His love of country life was strong, and much of his time he spent at Warden Court, looking after the estate there with his brother GEORGE. He was renowned for his generosity and kindness of heart, and his sense of fairness and justice endeared him to many. Not regarded as a religious man, he possessed true religion in no small degree. The jargon of religious sects disgusted him, and he held himself aloof from associating with any religious body, yet HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS set a magnificent example to many so-called Christians by his life spent in helping others, and giving other people pleasure whenever he could. Towards the latter end of his life he suffered much internal pain, and yet, through all his days of suffering, he never complained, his chief thought being to save others trouble and anxiety over him, and when he passed away 26 April, 1928, his loss was a very heavy one to the whole family, and especially to his favourite sister FLORENCE and his brother GEORGE, with whom he was in the true sense "a pal". Shortly before his decease one of his nieces sent him a calendar for the New Year bearing the following lines :

" It ain't no use to grumble or complain,  
T's just as cheap and easy to rejoice ;  
When God sorts out the weather and sends rain  
Then rain's my choice ".







HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS DRIVING THE BUSHEY PARK COACH.





Those words sunk into his thoughtful mind, and he wrote them out, changing them to the following :

“ It ain't no use to grumble or complain,  
 T's just as cheap and easy to rejoice ;  
 When God sorts out the ailments and sends pain  
 Then pain's my choice ”.

An uncomplaining submission to the Divine Will was his, and he passed away 26 April, 1928, mourned by many to whom he had indeed been a *real friend*. He was interred in Norwood Cemetery. During the World War he was attached to the City of London National Guard.



HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS (AT AGE OF FIFTY-TWO), 1865-1928.

*As ever  
 Harry Higgs*

LETITIA CHARLTON was the eldest daughter of WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS. She was born 3 March, 1849, at New Road, Marylebone, and married WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM CHARLES MURRELL, 8 April, 1874, by whom she had two sons and two daughters. Their second son, HAROLD FRANKLIN MURRELL, became an architect, and during the World War held a Commission in the Royal Engineers, B.E.F. He married DOROTHY MACDONALD HENDERSON 7 October, 1920, and lives at Shortlands, Co. Kent.

LOUISA ANN was the second daughter born to WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS, 29 March, 1851, also at New Road, Marylebone. She spent her life in working amongst the poor of South London, and passed away unmarried 14 August, 1911, and was buried in the family grave at Norwood.





SARAH NASH HIGGS the next daughter born to WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS (shortly after their removal from Marylebone to the Palace Road, Lambeth), 28 September, 1853. It was she who wrote the book entitled 'Memorials of WILLIAM HIGGS', privately printed and published by Alabaster, Passmore & Sons, in 1890. Like her elder sister, LOUISA ANN, she has devoted her life to work amongst the poor, and especially in religious work in connection with Kenyon Baptist Church, Solon Road, Acre Lane, Brixton, which church was erected by the family to the memory of her father, from the designs of her brother WILLIAM.

MARY HIGGS the fourth daughter born to WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS at Palace Road, Lambeth, 16 February, 1855. She married Mr. FRANK GOTELEE, a farmer at Medstead, in the county of Hants, 16 February, 1881. Besides the estate at



KENYON BAPTIST CHURCH.

Erected by the family of WILLIAM HIGGS to his memory upon a site, on his old estate of Kenyon House, given by him for a Church to the London Baptist Association, and from designs of his eldest son, WILLIAM HIGGS of Stockwell, who is seen on the right of the picture with his son WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS, then aged 7.

Warden Point, Isle of Sheppey, her father had purchased considerable acreage at Medstead in Hampshire, and that is how she came to know her husband. She died 4 March, 1919.

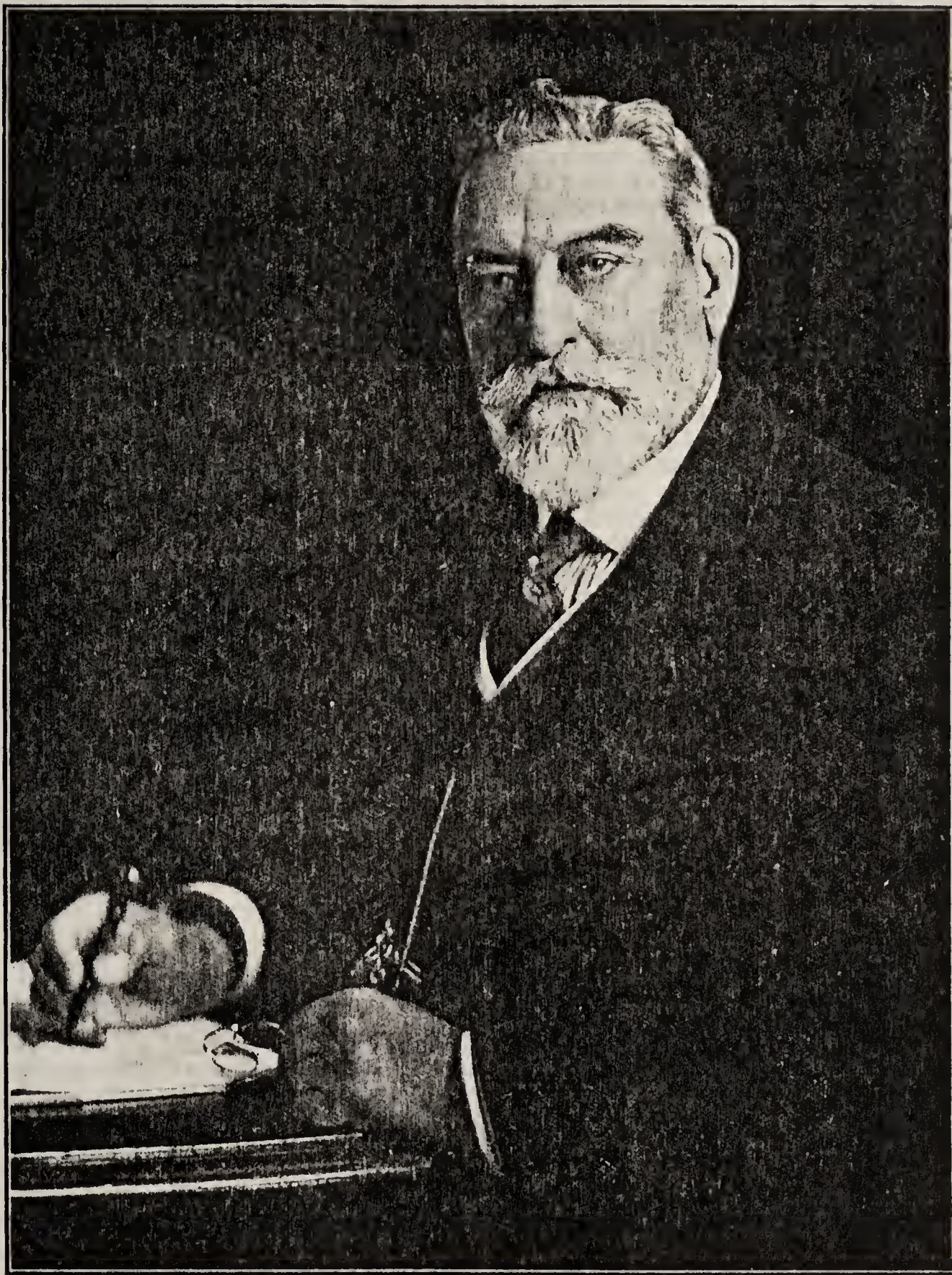
FRED GOTELEE, their son, was a non-commissioned officer in the Artists' Rifles, a London Regiment in France during the World War. He was killed in action 10 October, 1918.

One of the daughters of this marriage, EMILY GOTELEE, was translator for the Prisoners' Department of the French Red Cross. She was awarded "La Médaille de la Reconnaissance Française".









*William Higgs*

WILLIAM HIGGS OF STOCKWELL, IN THE PARISH OF LAMBETH.

[From a photograph taken on his seventieth birthday, 1852-1924.]





- Another daughter was KATHLEEN ; whilst the eldest daughter, MAY, became a Mrs. MULLINS, and settled with her husband in California, U.S.A.
- CHARLOTTE, the fifth daughter of WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS, was born at Palace Road, Lambeth, 6 September, 1856. She has never married, and has devoted her life to mission work.
- ANNA MARIA, the sixth daughter of WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS, was born at Palace Road, Lambeth, 12 December, 1857. She, too, never married, and her life has been spent in work amongst the poor of South London.
- ELLEN and EMMA, twin daughters of WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS, were born to them shortly after their removal from Lambeth to Stockwell Lodge, 9 April, 1860. ELLEN married the Rev. DAVID DAVIES of Holland Road Baptist Church at Hove, near Brighton, Sussex, a Welshman, and author of 'Echoes from the Welsh Hills' and other books, by whom she had several sons. EMMA never married. She spent her life with her other sisters in mission work, and died 25 January, 1923.
- EMILY HIGGS the ninth daughter born to WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS on 18 October, 1861. She only lived a year and a half, and died 16 April, 1863, and was buried in the family grave at Norwood.
- ALICE HIGGS the next daughter born to WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS 11 September, 1863. She became the wife of WILLIAM GARDINER NASH, Esq., a paper manufacturer of St. Paul's Cray, in the county of Kent, a descendant of the NASH family of Hemel Hempstead, in Hertfordshire. He died 7 June, 1914. By him she had two sons and one daughter, IVY. The second son, GORDON, was an officer in the Royal Air Force and died during the World War, whilst his brother, WILLIAM, held a commission in the Royal West Kent Regiment, B.E.F.
- EDITH HIGGS, the eleventh daughter born to WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS, was born 9 June, 1867, and for some years was a missionary in China, in connection with the *China Inland Mission*. *When the Boxer Rising took place she narrowly escaped death. During her flight to the coast from the province of Shensi her party was attacked, and in dragging her out of the rickshaw a travelling clock she carried fell out too. This was mistaken for some infernal machine and the boxers fled.* Thus her life, and the lives of those she travelled with, were saved.
- FLORENCE HIGGS was the youngest daughter and child born to WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS. She was born at Stockwell Lodge 17 September, 1868. She has never married.

Such is the record of the daughters of WILLIAM and LETITIA ANN HIGGS.

We now turn to the eldest son **WILLIAM HIGGS**, who was born on 16 May, 1852. He was sent to Morden Hall School in Surrey, and from there went into his father's business at Crown Works, South Lambeth (so named from all the contracts which had been carried out for H.M. Office of Works). When he was twenty-two years of age his father felt that he wished to retire from the business, and feeling that so large a concern was too much for his son to handle alone he took into partnership a Mr. JOSEPH HILL, who had a building business in Islington, and the firm became known eventually as HIGGS & HILL, being subsequently turned into a private limited company under the designation of HIGGS & HILL LTD., and the firm has since carried out some of the largest contracts in England besides supplying masonry for public buildings abroad. The Royal Naval College at Dartmouth may be mentioned, among many other similar works carried out by this firm. When twenty-five years of age WILLIAM HIGGS married 1 August, 1877, at the Wandsworth Wesleyan Church, CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH, the only daughter of WILLIAM JOHN MILLER, shipbuilder of Ramsgate, in the county of Kent, by CHARLOTTE ADAMS ADLEY, his wife. The MILLER family had been already closely allied by marriage for WILLIAM JOHN MILLER's *first cousin*, ROBERT MILLER, *had first married* CHARLOTTE, *a daughter of* Mr. GEORGE CHARLTON, WILLIAM HIGGS's *maternal grandfather*, and *after her decease* ROBERT MILLER *had married* WILLIAM JOHN MILLER's *widow*, CHARLOTTE ADAMS MILLER (*née Adley*). ROBERT MILLER's *mother, too*, was REBECCA, *a daughter of* Mr. RICHARD NASH, *the shipbuilder of Lambeth*, and *a sister of* SARAH, *the wife of* WILLIAM









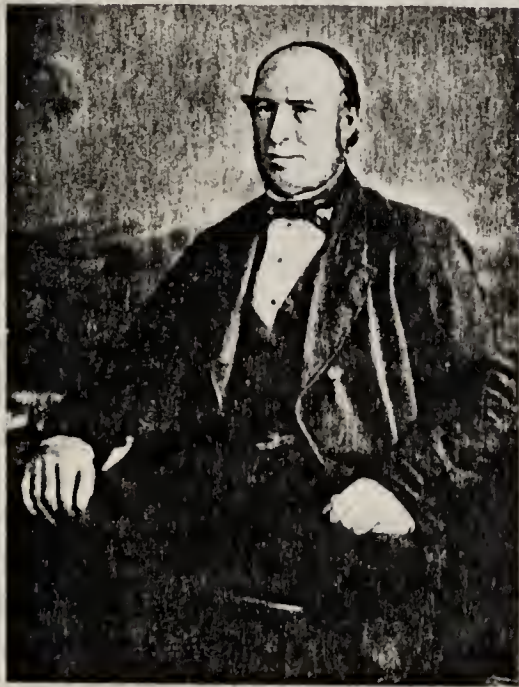
CAPT. WILLIAM MILLER  
OF RAMSGATE, CO. KENT,  
1757-1842.



ARMS IN USE  
BY THIS  
FAMILY OF MILLER  
OF KENT.



WILLIAM MILLER OF RAMSGATE,  
CO. KENT, AND OF ROTHERHITHE,  
SHIPBUILDER, FREEMAN OF THE  
CITY OF LONDON, 1785-1867.



WILLIAM JOHN MILLER  
OF RAMSGATE, CO. KENT,  
1816-1865.



CHARLOTTE ADAMS, DAUGHTER OF  
WILLIAM ADLEY OF CANTERBURY,  
BY CATHERINE PERKINS, HIS WIFE,  
AND WIFE OF WILLIAM JOHN MILLER.



CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH MILLER  
AT THE AGE OF NINE YEARS.



CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH,  
DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM JOHN MILLER  
BY CHARLOTTE ADAMS ADLEY,  
HIS WIFE, AND WIFE OF  
WILLIAM HIGGS OF STOCKWELL  
(1856-1924).



CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH MILLER,  
AGED SEVENTEEN,  
SHOWING STYLE OF DRESS IN 1873.





HIGGS's *grandfather* CALEB HIGGS. At the time of this marriage CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH MILLER was living at The Lawn, Battersea Square, with her mother and stepfather ROBERT MILLER, who was then a partner in the firm of NASH & MILLER, ship and barge builders and gravel merchants, on the waterfront at Battersea. "The Lawn" was a picturesque spot with its garden running down to the water's edge, and the fine old house was an ancient one, having been originally in the family of the Martyr Ridley, and tradition states that *Ridley himself had at one time occupied it*. The MILLER family were long resident in Ramsgate, in the county of Kent, CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH herself having been born there 14 May, 1856. Her father had his shipbuilding yards on the site of where the London, Chatham & Dover railway station was later erected, when he moved his works to the West Cliff. The business originally belonged to her grandfather WILLIAM MILLER, who had served his apprenticeship to Mr. THOMAS PRESTON, the younger, citizen and shipwright of London, and through his apprenticeship had become himself a *member of the Shipwrights' Company and a Freeman of the City of London* on 6 September, 1814. Her great-grandfather WILLIAM MILLER, of East Cliff House, Ramsgate, was a sea captain, who during hostilities with France had served in the Royal Navy, and was present at the battles of the Nile and Trafalgar, whilst her great-great-grandfather was one JOHN MILLER of Ramsgate, who had had much to do in connection with the construction of Ramsgate Harbour. Tradition has it that the family was of Scotch origin, though CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH MILLER's grandfather WILLIAM MILLER used the crest of the MILLERS of Oxenhoath in Kent, namely, "A wolf's head erased azure, collared ermine", the arms of which family were "Ermine, a fess gules between three wolf's heads erased azure". This coat was anciently borne by a Sussex family of MILLER, a branch of which settled at Glaskenny, Co. Wicklow, Ireland.

WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS made their first home at No. 4, Crown Villas, overlooking Kennington Oval, the well-known Surrey cricket ground, which originally was the site of the residence of *Edward the Black Prince*. This was close to the Crown Swimming-Baths, which were built and opened by WILLIAM HIGGS's father, and were the first public swimming-baths opened in London, and which proved to be a very remunerative venture. These baths abutted on to the premises of the building-yards of HIGGS & HILL, so that WILLIAM HIGGS was close to his business at this time.

He later bought the leasehold of a property at Stockwell just in the Clapham area, which had been a farm house, situated in the Binfield Road, and known as "Sussex Lodge", which he altered very considerably to the needs of his family, and there resided until his decease on 17 January, 1924. This home was conveniently situated for him, being within easy drive of his business premises at South Lambeth, and close to *the Spurgeon Orphan Homes at Stockwell*, where he had succeeded his father as Treasurer of that institution, and in which work he took the very greatest interest. How rapidly London grew and the whole district changed! When WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS first went to live at Sussex Lodge it had a more or less rural aspect, but it was not long before smaller houses were built on either side of the Binfield Road and the Studley Road, which ran parallel to it, and their small gardens abutted on to the beautiful gardens of his home. However, the trees he had planted when first settling there had also rapidly grown, and shut out the ugly view of the surrounding houses, and in the garden of Sussex Lodge, with its flower-beds, its lawns, its glass-houses and its vinery, its summer-houses and paddock, one could imagine oneself many miles from London. Like his younger brother HENRY FREDERICK, WILLIAM HIGGS was a lover of horses and was a good rider, and occasionally enjoyed a hunt with the East Kent Harriers. The entrance to his stables was from the Studley Road, and he was particular that they were well kept and his horses were well turned out. The management of the family estate at Warden he chiefly left to his brothers GEORGE and HENRY, but he thoroughly









BACK VIEW OF SUSSEX LODGE, THE RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM HIGGS OF STOCKWELL.



THE GARDEN OF SUSSEX LODGE FROM THE HOUSE







enjoyed the shooting season, when he would travel down by rail, taking his two sons with him, and many a splendid bag did they have in a day's shoot over the old estate with GEORGE and HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS. WILLIAM HIGGS, in his latter years, bore a



J. HARRALD, PRIVATE SECRETARY TO CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON.	REV. CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON.	WILLIAM HIGGS OF STOCKWELL.	CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH, WIFE OF WILLIAM HIGGS (NÉE MILLER).	JOSEPH PASSMORE.	EMMA, WIFE OF JOSEPH PASSMORE (NÉE SMITH).
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GROUP TAKEN AT MENTONE, SOUTH OF FRANCE, DECEMBER, 1889.

striking resemblance to KING EDWARD VII both in figure and feature--so striking in fact that upon one occasion his carriage and pair crossing Epsom Downs, during one of the great race meetings, came amidst the throngs of people surrounding the course, and he was actually taken for His Majesty! With his keen sense of wit he royally acknowledged





the cheers of the surging crowd upon either side of his carriage. The band struck up the National Anthem before the mistake was realized, and then the mounted police made way for the equipage to proceed from the Downs ! Like his father, WILLIAM HIGGS was a very close friend of CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON, and he, too, succeeded his father as a deacon of the Metropolitan Tabernacle Church and gave generously to that cause, as well as subscribing largely to various chapels of the Baptist denomination. He was, however, by no means a sectarian, and among his many friends were clergymen of the Established Church and ministers of various denominations, who all admired his splendid character and integrity. The Little Sisters of the Poor of Lambeth were never sent away empty-handed when they called upon him for assistance, and he carried out a good deal



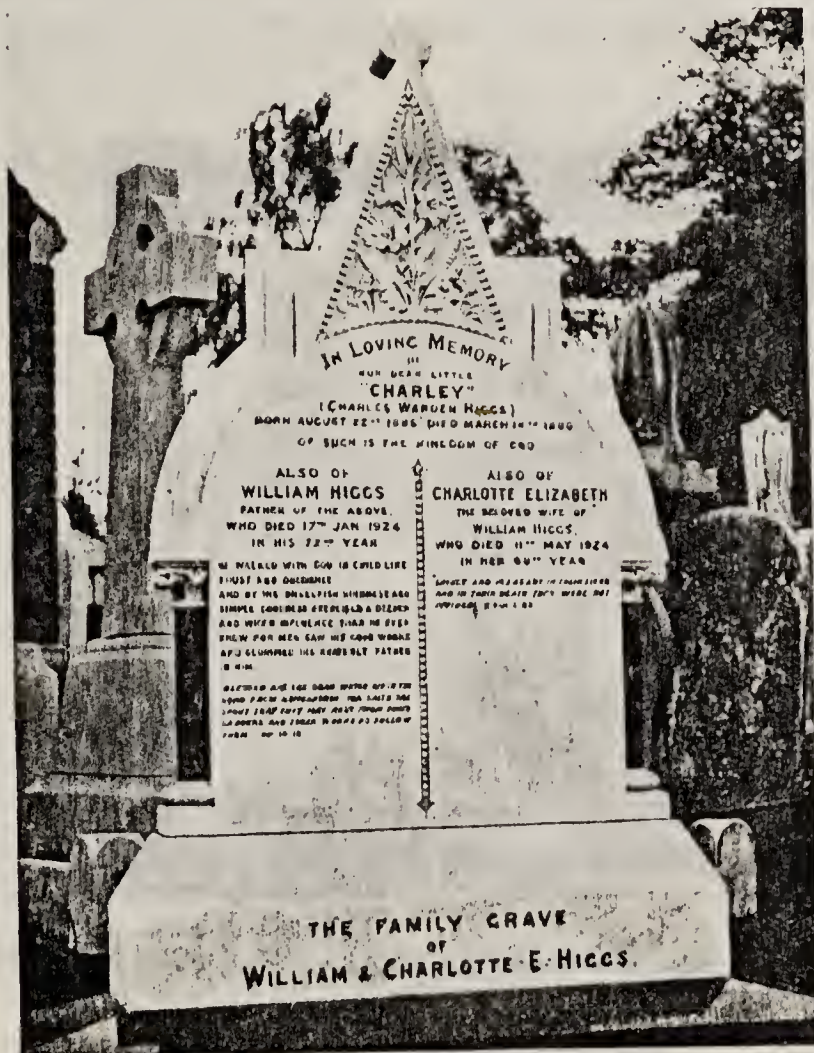
WILLIAM AND CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS, TAKEN AT HINDHEAD, CO. SURREY, DURING A DRIVING TOUR IN 1906.

of work at St. Joseph's Convent, Lambeth. He loved to travel, and believed that it was a splendid education for his children, whom he took with him to France, Italy, Switzerland and Germany at different times. For many years he made his annual holiday in the South of France, often in company with CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON, and Mentone was a very favourite spot with WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS. His great sense of justice endeared him to his employees, who regarded him more as a friend than an employer. His thoughtfulness and kindness of heart endeared him to all who served in and about his home. He was particularly fond of architectural work, and spent much of his time in designing churches and chapels in various parts of the country. Among such designs may be mentioned the East London Tabernacle for the Rev. ARCHIBALD GEIKIE BROWN, the Solon Road Baptist Church (Kenyon Chapel), Acre Lane, Brixton, erected by the family in memory of his father ; CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON's home in Nightingale Lane, Clapham ; and Spurgeon's tomb in Norwood Cemetery. In the latter days of his life he attended St. Paul's Church, Portman Square, being a very great admirer of the Rev. J. STUART HOLDEN, the vicar of that Church, and up to the time





of his decease, and for some years previously, he held office as sidesman in that church. He died 17 January, 1924, and his funeral was one of the most impressive in South London. His earthly remains were taken into the Memorial Hall of the Spurgeon's Orphan Homes on Monday, 21 January, in which Hall he had so often played the part of Father Christmas, to the intense enjoyment of the boys and girls of that great institution, and given to each a new shilling. The service was conducted by the Rev. CHARLES SPURGEON, son of the Founder, with an address by the Rev. J. STUART HOLDEN, D.D., who in the course of his remarks said :



THE FAMILY GRAVE IN NORWOOD CEMETERY OF WILLIAM AND CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS OF STOCKWELL.

“What accounted, what accounts for such a life of purity and love, such a quiet, glowing, radiant, confident faith? . . . First of all one of the great secrets of my friend's life was his intense love for God and for his Holy Word. . . . Secondly his simple faith in the Christ of the Bible, his simple faith in the Saviour and Redeemer, were always paramount in the harmony of the life for which we now thank God together”.

The beautiful hymn, “Peace perfect Peace”, was sung and then, whilst the children of those orphan homes who loved him dearly sang “The Homeland”, the cortege passed out from the Hall and along the drive he had so often travelled in his work of love for the fatherless and the widows, to the family grave on the top of the hill in Norwood Cemetery, close by his father's and his grandfather's graves. And so terminated the life of WILLIAM HIGGS the younger.

CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS, who from the time of her marriage had never been separated from him, who had the remarkable record of never having been away from the

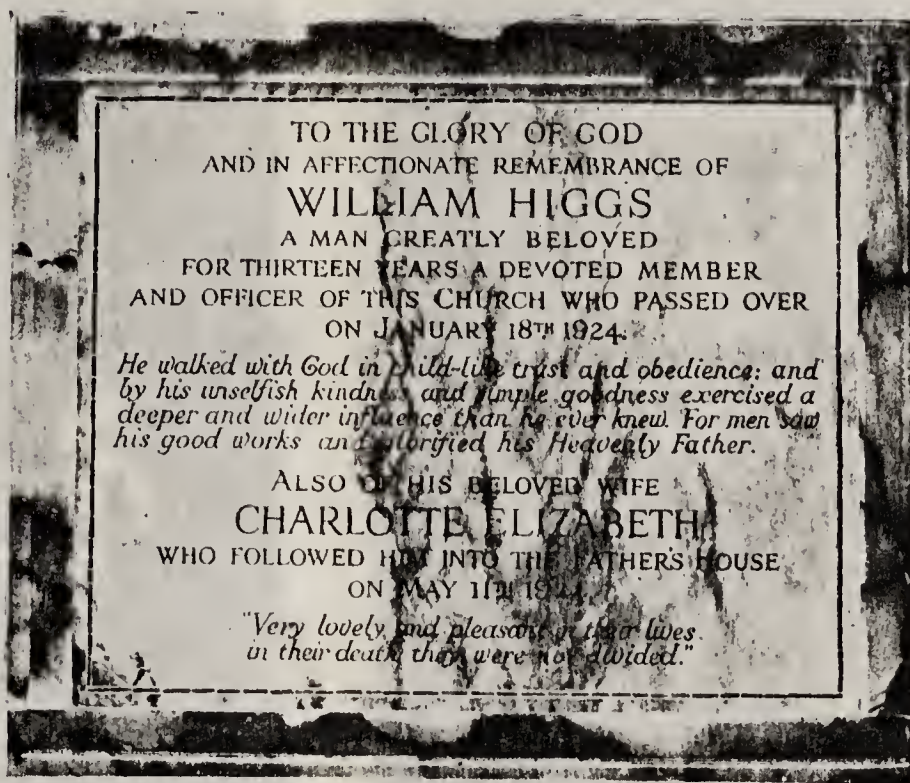




same dwelling for a single night during forty-seven years, could not live without him, and though wonderfully brave under her unspeakable grief, just pined away and followed him through the veil four months later on 11 May. Truly it is written on the tablet, erected by their children, in St. Paul's Church, Portman Square, London W. :

"VERY LOVELY AND PLEASANT IN THEIR LIVES ;  
IN THEIR DEATH THEY WERE NOT DIVIDED."

Her first thought had ever been for her husband, her children and home.  
WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS had three sons and two daughters.



MEMORIAL TABLET TO WILLIAM AND CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS ERECTED BY THEIR CHILDREN IN ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, PORTMAN SQUARE, LONDON, W.

WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS, their eldest son, was born at Kennington, London, 23 May, 1878, just two years after his great-grandfather CALEB HIGGS had passed away. He was taken, however, to Furzedown Farm, Mitcham, for his great-grandmother to see before she passed away in June, 1879. When the babe was born it was noticed that the two toes on each foot next the big toe were joined together—or webbed—and his parents asked the doctor if these two toes should be separated. He assuring them that this peculiarity would be no detriment to him in after life, they decided to leave them as they were. Later on an interesting story is given in relation to these webbed toes.

Were it not for the fact that the family history would be incomplete without some account of the life of the eldest son of WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS, this portion of the book would be entirely eliminated. To assemble in readable form the history of the family, as a whole, from the mass of material gathered by the writer and his late cousin FREDERICK HIGGS, has been no easy task, but to attempt to give any faithful record of one's own life *for the sake of the generations to come* is an infinitely more difficult task.

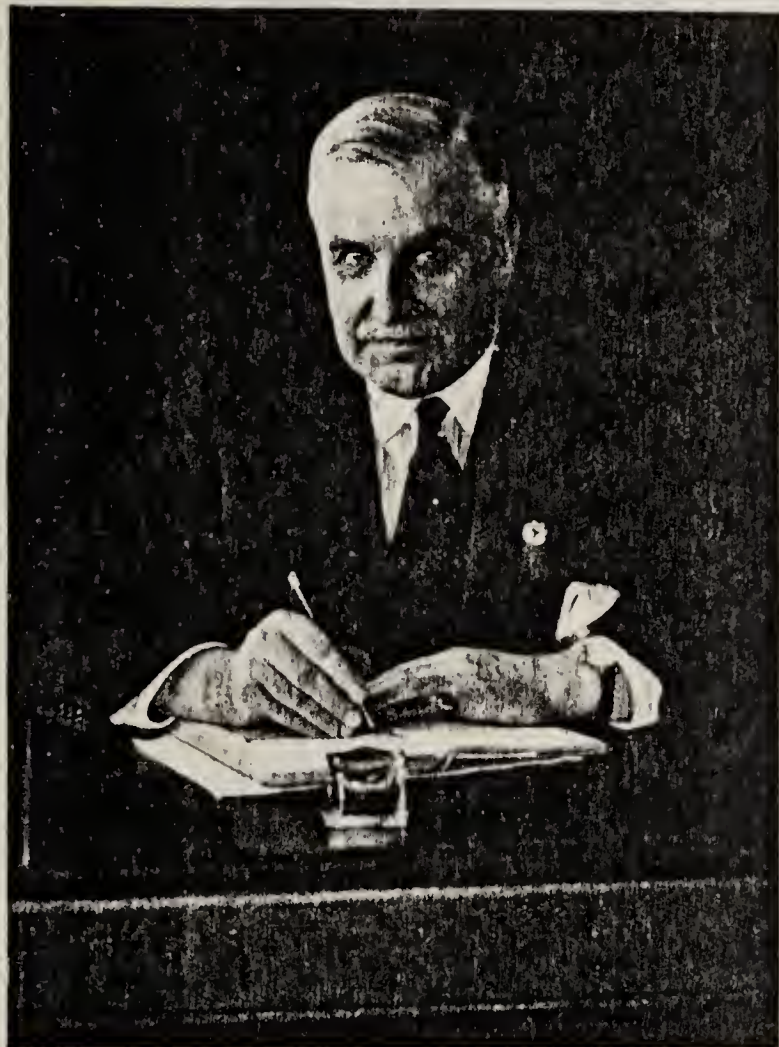
The first few years of his life WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS spent at Kennington. The







nursery window overlooked the famous Surrey County Cricket Ground—known as the Oval—and memory recalls the early interest taken in watching the cricket matches from that vantage point as a small boy, and also the occasional visits to Gwydyr House, Brixton Hill, to see “grandfather”, who invariably greeted his little grandson with the words, “Well, what does Willie want”? and ere the answer was forthcoming his hand would place within the small palm a shilling, saying, “A shilling, a piece of string and



WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS, J.P., F.S.G.,  
A NOTARY PUBLIC  
IN AND FOR THE  
PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

*W. Miller Higgs*



EVELYN MARY,  
DAUGHTER OF THE LATE EDWARD LOCKE, ESQ., F.G.S.  
(A WELL-KNOWN LONDON ARCHITECT),  
AND THIRD WIFE OF WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS.

She is a great-grand-daughter of WILLIAM JOHN HUGGINS, who was appointed Marine Painter to KING WILLIAM IV in 1834, three of whose pictures of the Battle of Trafalgar hang in Hampton Court Palace.

a penknife will always be found most useful in your pocket through life”. Although barely five years old when that good man passed away, the memory of him is very vivid, and the third day of January, 1883, stands out beyond all others at that early age, as his father’s grief is recalled which brought home to the heart of the grandson that Grandfather had gone!

When about six years of age his parents moved to Stockwell, and there he and his elder sister learned to ride on a small black Welsh pony, and many a ride they enjoyed with their father over Clapham, Wandsworth, Tooting and Wimbledon Commons, and





occasionally hunted with the East Kent Harriers, for when they went for their holidays to Ramsgate the horse and the pony went too.

Private tuition at home being ended he was sent to The Leys School, Cambridge, under the late Dr. MOULTON, but owing to unjust treatment from a form master over a most trivial matter (later that form master's resignation was demanded over another case), he was afterwards sent to The Manor House, Old Town, Clapham, another excellent school conducted by the late Dr. MAXWELL (LL.D.Cantab.), a man greatly respected by all his pupils.

Upon leaving school WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS entered his father's business, serving his apprenticeship through various departments of that firm, and then serving as deputy and timekeeper upon various public buildings in course of erection, The Bishop's House at Kennington (under Mr. NORMAN SHAW, the well-known architect), and offices in Mincing Lane, E.C. (under Messrs. CRICKMAY and ZIMMERMANN), being among these. He afterwards returned to the offices at Crown Works, South Lambeth, where he had charge of the private ledgers, and as a director of the firm took his share in visiting work under construction, interviewing clients and architects, etc. In his spare time he worked for many years in connection with the Boys' Brigade in Lambeth, and took an active part in the annual camp of the South London Battalion. He also at this time took a class for boys in connection with the Spurgeon Orphan Homes at Stockwell on Sundays, and likewise at Kenyon Baptist Church, Solon Road, Acre Lane, Brixton, which had been erected in memory of his grandfather. An incident is recalled in connection with the stone-laying ceremony in the building of that memorial chapel when the Rev. C. H. SPURGEON, the great preacher, lifted the then six years old and eldest grandson of WILLIAM HIGGS up, to give that stone a final tap with the mallet he had just used.

At the age of twenty-four WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS married EDITH MONICA, daughter of the Rev. ARCHIBALD GEIKIE BROWN (then of the West Norwood Baptist Church, and formerly of the East London Tabernacle) by EDITH CONSTANCE, daughter of ASHLEY WILLMOTT BARRETT, Esq., of Blackmore, Co. Essex, his third wife, on 8 July, 1902. ARCHIBALD GEIKIE BROWN was a kinsman of the famous geologist Sir ARCHIBALD GEIKIE, K.C.B., and of the Rev. CUNNINGHAM GEIKIE, author of the well-known book, 'Geikie's Life of Christ'. *The Rev. ARCHIBALD GEIKIE BROWN's father was JOHN WILLIAM BROWN, of Brathay Lodge, Clapham Park, Co. Surrey, son of JOHN BROWN of Oaklands, Streatham Hill, a partner in the firm of Alexander, Cunliff and Brown, bankers, of Lombard Street, London, by ANN, daughter of ALEXANDER GEIKIE of Edinburgh, Scotland. JOHN BROWN (of Oaklands, Streatham Hill) was the only child of JOHN BROWN of Dundee, Co. Forfar, who settled at Peckham, Co. Kent, and who married SARAH MAUNDAY of Farningham in that county. JOHN BROWN of Dundee was the son of the marriage of JOHN BROWN, weaver, to JANET, daughter of ROBERT MCKENZIE of Tron, formerly of Musselburgh, which took place 7 May, 1758 (vide 'Scottish Record Soc. Register of Marriages of the City of Edinburgh', 1751-1800). There is every reason to believe that this JOHN BROWN, described as "Weaver" at his marriage, was none other than the remarkable Dr. JOHN BROWN whose portrait is given in 'The Disciples of Æsculapius', and who obtained his doctorship through the influence of two young doctors named MACKENZIE and FORD.*

The BARRETTS have been long seated in Essex, and EDITH CONSTANCE, the third wife of the Rev. ARCHIBALD GEIKIE BROWN, was ninth in descent from one PHILLIP BARRETT of Blackmore and Navestock in that county, who was buried at Blackmore in 1617. A brass to many members of this family is in Blackmore Parish Church.

WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS settled at Wimbledon, in the county of Surrey, where the only two children of this marriage were born, namely :





1. WILLIAM OSWALD BARRETT HIGGS, born 14 October, 1903. He was educated at St. Lawrence College, Ramsgate, Co. Kent, and, settling at Victoria, British Columbia, married ELEANOR EDNA PATTIE, the elder daughter of F. E. WOLSEY SMITH of that city on 2 December, 1926, by whom he has one daughter :

(1) MARY EDITH BETTY, born 26 August, 1928.

2. ARCHIBALD GEIKIE HIGGS, born at Wimbledon 28 September, 1906. He, too, was educated at St. Lawrence College, Ramsgate, and likewise settling in British Columbia married 21 January, 1928, at the Cathedral, Victoria, GWENDOLYN CECILIA GRACE, the eldest daughter of the Rev. THOMAS ELLIOT ROWE, traditionally descended from the same family as Sir THOMAS ROWE, Knt., of London (living about 1550), by whom he has a son :

1. DESMOND GEIKIE HIGGS, born 29 March, 1933.

They made their home in Victoria, B.C., ARCHIBALD GEIKIE HIGGS being a member of the staff of Messrs. A. E. AMES & Co., the well-known financial house of London, Montreal, Victoria, Vancouver and New York.

Shortly after the birth of ARCHIBALD GEIKIE HIGGS the marriage of his parents, which had been an unhappy one from the start, was annulled, and in 1909 WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS settled in British Columbia, where subsequently his two sons followed. His first wife having married again, he married a second time at the Government House, Ashcroft, B.C., 20 February, 1911, CHARLOTTE AUDREY EMMA, daughter of ARTHUR JOHN BLOMFIELD FLOWERDEW,\* of Billingsford Hall (near Scole) in the county of Suffolk, England, who had come out to British Columbia as secretary to the manager of an English fruit-growing syndicate at Wallachin. Shortly after this marriage WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS made his home at Sooke, near Victoria, on Vancouver Island, and on 13 May, 1913, during the Lieutenant-Governorship of THOMAS PATTERSON, was made a Justice of the Peace for the Province. Keenly interested in the poultry industry of the Province he became engaged as editor of a poultry journal (now 'The Canada Poultryman'), in which his wife took a very active part. The World War, however, breaking forth in August, 1914, conditions for carrying on became almost impossible; week after week subscribers joined the Colours, advertising dropped to a minimum, the price of paper rose by leaps and bounds, and likewise the cost of printing, and in 1916 WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS felt it his duty to enlist, and his wife continued to carry on the paper at a heavier loss each month until she was able to sell it, after her husband had gone overseas. Enlisting with the 5th Regiment Canadian Garrison Artillery for training he was soon made a non-commissioned officer. He agitated to be transferred to the Canadian Expeditionary Force, but was continually refused, being informed that his services were "requisite to the Esquimalt Station" for training men. Eventually he was sent to the central recruiting offices at the Armoury, Victoria, and there it was his duty to make out the attestation papers of numbers of men whom he had to meet at the boats arriving from California and other United States ports. At last, but not until 1918, did he succeed in getting his transfer, and left Victoria with a draft from the Army and Navy Veterans. After arriving at Purfleet, Essex, he was placed in the Orderly Room on account of his experience in this branch of the service, and only after the greatest difficulty did he succeed in at last getting upon a draft for France, reaching the front line in October, having been drafted to the 3rd Batt. Canadian Railroad troops, then with headquarters at Berlin, and was placed with the survey party of that battalion. Shortly after sailing for England he received the following letter from his old Commanding Officer, Major H. H. WOOLSON, at Esquimalt :

\* Father of Lieut. GORDON MURIEL FLOWERDEW, to whom the Victoria Cross was posthumously awarded after the charge of Lord Strathcona's Horse at St. Moreil Wood during the World War.









WILLIAM OSWALD BARRETT  
HIGGS.



MARY EDITH BETTY,  
AGED ONE YEAR.



ELEANOR EDNA PATTIE,  
WIFE OF WILLIAM O. B. HIGGS.



DR. JOHN BROWN.



ARCHIBALD GEIKIE HIGGS AND GWENDOLYN CECILIA  
GRACE, HIS WIFE.  
*Inset* DESMOND GEIKIE HIGGS, THEIR SON,  
AGED FIVE MONTHS.





" July 13th, 1918.

" My dear HIGGS,

" I was delighted to get your very welcome letter of the 23rd ult. . . . Your description of experiences 'so far' were very interesting and I hope you will find time to write me occasionally, and keep me well posted, as I shall always be glad to hear



A STREET SCENE DURING THE WORLD WAR OF WHAT HAD BEEN THE  
LARGE MINING CITY OF LENS.

This picture gives some idea of the difficulties encountered by the Canadian Railroad Troops in surveying for and constructing the light railways through all this *débris* and destruction, under shell-fire and German aeroplane attacks.



THE LITTLE TOWN OF ST. PIERRE AS IT APPEARED AT THE TIME WHEN THE 3RD  
BATT. CANADIAN RAILROAD TROOPS RAN A LIGHT RAILWAY BETWEEN IT  
AND ST. AUGUSTE IN OCTOBER, 1918.

from you, having felt more than a passing interest in your career. I only hope, for your own sake and that of your wife, that you will come back unscathed and have a happy return to Victoria. You have the right spirit old friend, and anyone with whom you became acquainted may count it a gain for having met and known you ; I know that is how I feel! . . . Well, old man, you have helped to put a good many into the



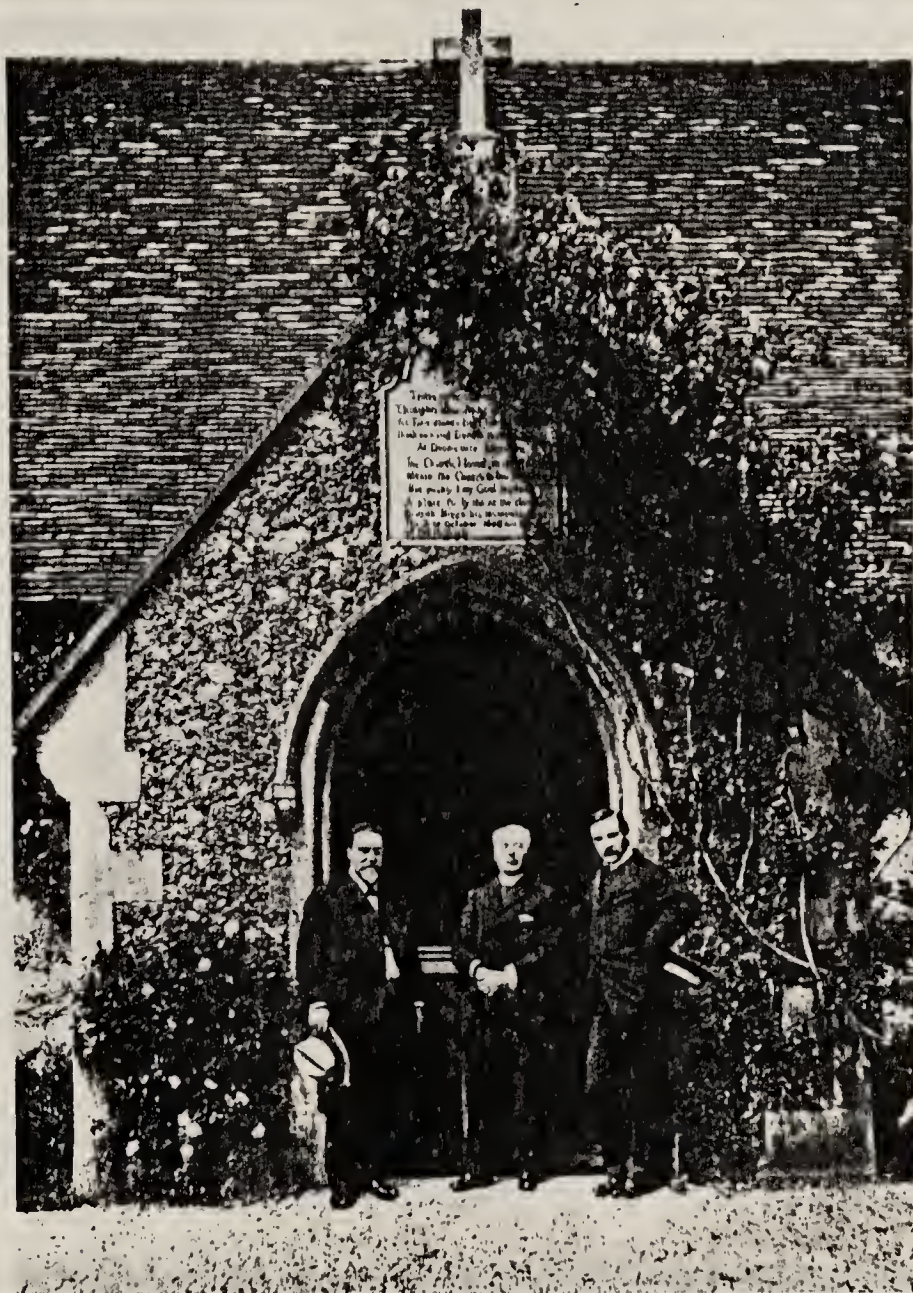


C.E.F., while on recruiting work ; now it's your turn. I only hope you won't find it too exacting, and I know that whether you are bossing a gang of 'Fish plate boltees' or pushing a pen in the orderly room, you can always be counted upon to do your duty thoroughly and conscientiously, and I trust you will have the health and strength to 'Carry on', and that quick promotion will come your way. You deserve it!

"With kind regards, I remain,

"Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) "H. H. WOOLISON."



PORCH OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, SOUTH STOKE, OXON.

WILLIAM HIGGS    REV. H. G. NIND,    WILLIAM MILLER  
OF STOCKWELL.    VICAR OF    HIGGS.  
SOUTH STOKE.

The tablet above the porch is that to GRIFFITH, eldest son of BARTON HIGGS, and nephew of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS (*vide* Chapter III).

The 8th of October, 1918, stands out as a red letter day in the war, as upon that date the Survey Party of the 3rd Batt. C.R.T. had to run a line for a branch light railway for ammunition to be brought up from the ruins of St. Pierre to the adjoining ruined town of St. Auguste. The party worked immediately in front of the British artillery (for the Battalion was attached to the British First Army Corps), over a shell-torn area with but a foot or two between each shell-hole, and immediately behind the front-line trenches.





Shells whistled overhead, and continually the party stumbled over the barbed wire across that ground, whilst German aeroplanes rained bullets from above until driven off by gunfire from the British batteries. The line was surveyed and constructed under such conditions almost as quickly as the survey was made, and that piece of work accomplished without a single casualty to the small survey party save for a poisoned arm to this member of the HIGGS family through falling on to barbed wire, one of the barbs of which had penetrated the palm of the hand. Day after day similar work went on until the wonderful news of the Armistice swept the line at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day, of the eleventh month.

Only one month of actual front-line service, which is hardly worth mentioning, and fades into insignificance in the light of the service rendered by many others whose names appear in this volume. That month, however, brought home indeed the horrors of war!

Xmas Day, with its many happy recollections of the family gatherings at Gwydyr



AUDREY RUTH SYMONDS HIGGS, WHO DID MUCH IN CONNECTION WITH THE INDEXING OF THIS WORK FOR HER FATHER WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS (WITH HER WIRE-HAIRED TERRIER "PATCH OF GALIANO").

House, Brixton, was spent in the great camp at Étaples, in tents soaked by the downpour of rain, but the first week in January, 1919, saw a few days' leave and a wonderful reunion with father, mother, brother, sisters and sons. That farewell to the beloved parents was the last!

During a leave in England a visit was made again to old Barre Place, South Stoke; the photograph here reproduced was taken at the porch of St. Andrew's Church under the tablet to GRIFFITH HIGGS (a nephew and executor of the will of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS) about 1905, four years before W. MILLER HIGGS went to British Columbia.

After some weeks at Rhyl Camp, missing the great riot there by only a few days, the return trip to the Dominion of Canada was made. The troop-ship sailed from Devonport one Sunday morning, and that scene will ever live in one's memory whilst life shall last. A glorious sunny morning, the wonderful green of the Devonshire grasslands, the red cattle peacefully grazing, the red chickens on the farms and the red roofs of the farm-houses made a picture for any artist, and one of such exquisite beauty that no pen can





do it justice. It was truly "Glorious Devon"! A wonderful memory of the Homeland!

Upon reaching Victoria demobilization was soon effected, and WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS returned to his home at Sooke—known as Warden Ranch—and there endeavoured to get re-established in poultry-raising and by conducting a land agent's business, but conditions had entirely changed, and it was an uphill struggle. Then on 17 December, 1920, nine years after his second marriage, a little daughter was born—AUDREY RUTH SYMONDS HIGGS (a daughter who has since done much in connection with the indexing of this work). This event should have brought the greatest happiness, but, alas the tragedy of life! Not only were conditions for business changed, but *all* was changed, and that statement shall be sufficient! An earnest struggle was made under impossible conditions to avoid the worst, but it came. For a while WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS worked



THE HAVEN, GALIANO ISLAND, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Residence of WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS, J.P., F.S.G., and family, showing approach to private float and boat-landing and flag-staff.

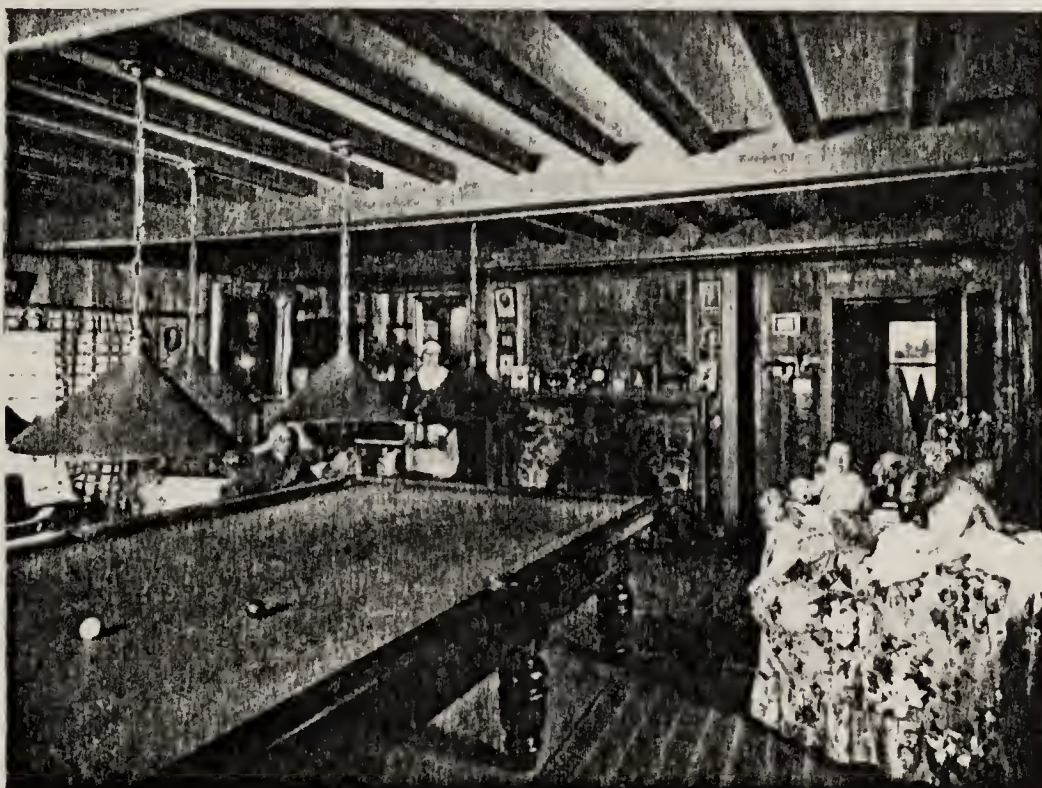
as manager of a real estate or land agent's branch of a firm in Victoria, going to Sooke each week-end. Finally his second wife went to Vancouver, and the little girl came to live with her father in rooms in Victoria, and they were joined there by his two sons. The boarding-house "Baynards", St. John Street, was conducted by a Miss LOCKE, who, strange to relate, was a step-daughter of Mr. ERNEST CRICKMAY, of Messrs. CRICKMAY & ZIMMERMANN, the firm of architects previously referred to, and a daughter of the late Mr. EDWARD LOCKE of Sutton, in the county of Surrey, England, a well-known architect, antiquarian, and a Fellow of the Geological Society, who was traditionally descended from the LOCKES of Bristol and Somerset, a collateral branch of the same family as JOHN LOCKE, the "father of English philosophy". Miss LOCKE did a great deal for the family, and it was whilst residing there that WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS received the greatest blow, namely, the death of his beloved father on 17 January, 1924, only to be followed by another such blow four months later in the death of his mother.





Soon afterwards he bought some property upon Galiano Island, a small waterfront estate of some 20 acres, and there built a home for the family, and Miss EVELYN MARY LOCKE agreed to keep house for them. With his sons he took up fox-farming until the boys chose to branch out on their own and get married.

However, it seemed as though the Hand of the God of his fathers had been over all, and only as great suffering is understood is a like experience of joy realized. Miss LOCKE—who had done so much for the family—consented to become his third wife, and they were married at the Church of Our Lord, Humboldt Street, Victoria, 7 January, 1926. This marriage has proved a blessed union, and it can be indeed said, "Whom God hath joined together, let no man put asunder". Besides being a Justice of the Peace for the Province, WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS was made a Notary Public for British Columbia 2 June, 1919, under the Lieutenant-Governorship of His Honour FRANK



THE BILLIARD-ROOM AND LIBRARY AT THE HAVEN, GALIANO ISLAND.

STILLMANN BARNARD, K.C.M.G., and in May, 1929, Mr. and Mrs. W. MILLER HIGGS had the honour of entertaining His Honour Lieutenant-Governor RANDOLPH R. BRUCE and Miss HELEN MACKENZIE, his niece and Chateleine of Government House, Victoria, upon their visit to Galiano Island. A picture of the house-party taken at The Haven, Galiano, on 29 May that year is given in this book.

W. MILLER HIGGS was elected three years in succession to the presidency of the B.C. Fox and Fur Farmers' Association, Inc., to the presidency of the Galiano Island Development Association, and also to the Presidency of the Islands Central Conservative Association in 1932. These positions he relinquished in August of that year on leasing The Haven property, and with his wife and daughter RUTH returned to England, and settled January, 1933, at Goring-on-Thames, two miles from South Stoke, in the centre of the locality so closely associated with a number of branches of the HIGGS family for the past 400 years, and his daughter RUTH was sent to The Abbey School, Reading. During his residence in Canada he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists, in recognition of much genealogical research work; he also acted in an advisory capacity in





## THE HAVEN.

" There's a nook I know well in the woodlands,  
 On the brink of a beautiful lake,  
 Where the air is like wine, and the waters  
 Of marvellous virtues partake ;  
 There is health for the body, and healing ;  
 There is comfort and peace for the soul,  
 Amid scenes that despite all endeavor,  
 No painter of words could extol.

" There are fairy-like islets reflected,  
 With blue vistas of mountains beyond,  
 And the blithest of birds round about me,  
 That warble their messages fond ;  
 There's the whisper of winds in the tree-tops,  
 Golden sunbeams that filter the light ;  
 And I wish I could pen half the glories  
 That feature the heavens by night.

" There's the perfume that beggars all praises—  
 Warm enchantment of balsam and pine ;  
 And there's something that savors of Eden—  
 A kinship with Essence Divine.  
 O, tell me not God can unmindful  
 Be of creatures e'en lowly as I,  
 When His spirit is everywhere present,  
 On earth, in air, water and sky !

" Every moss-covered rock holds some meaning,  
 Every hoary-limbed tree harbors grace ;  
 Every cumulus cloud that is mirrored,  
 In His wonderful scheme has its place ;  
 While anon, in the mystical silence,  
 'Neath the stars—shine they never so fair—  
 There is balm for weary and wounded,  
 And a haven that conquers despair."

*Jeanne Valdez.*

the matter of Civic Arms, having studied heraldry from his youth. About 1911 he entered a public competition for a design for the civic arms for Kamloops, B.C., which was won by him. He also designed the ecclesiastical arms for the See of Cariboo.

In 1924, whilst living in Victoria, he was appointed by the City as Secretary to the Reception Committee for the welcome which was to be extended upon the occasion of *H.M. Special Service Squadron visiting Victoria and the old naval station of Esquimalt*, and in that capacity had the organizing of the reception and entertainment given over ten days to some 6000 men of all ratings in that wonderful fleet. The entertainment given in Victoria, B.C., was a remarkable success, and for the first time in the history of the City a balance on the right side was returned to the Treasury, and WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS was presented with a special donation in recognition of this service.

Upon one occasion, soon after first settling upon Vancouver Island, he came across a mining engineer in Victoria with whom he was acquainted, Mr. R. G. MELLIN, who said to him, " HIGGS, come out to the Oak Bay boathouse with me this evening as I want you to meet a namesake of yours who has been out here many years ". So that evening they proceeded to Oak Bay, and going on board a motor launch named " The Kelvin ", lying at anchor, there sat the namesake at his table in the cabin. " HIGGS, meet HIGGS," was said to the somewhat surprised owner of the launch. " So you are a HIGGS, are you? " said Mr. LEWIS LEONARD SPALDING HIGGS; " Where do you come from? " To







which reply was given, " Well, I was born in London, but my family came from *Berkshire and Oxfordshire, originally from Cheltenham, near Gloucester* ". " That's interesting," said



THE HOUSE PARTY AT THE HAVEN, GALIANO ISLAND, TAKEN 29 MAY, 1929.

W. MILLER HIGGS, J.P., F.S.G.

Miss BETTY WARD, dau. of F. WARD, Esq., of Douglas Lake, B.C.	LL.-Col. C. W. PECK, V.C., D.S.O., Member for the Islands Constituency of the Provincial Legislature.	EVELYN MARY HIGGS, wife of WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS, J.P., F.S.G.	His Honour Lieut.-Governor RANDOLPH R. BRUCE, of British Columbia.	AUDREY RUTH SYMONDS HIGGS, aged 9.	Miss HELEN MACKENZIE, niece of His Honour and Chatelaine of Government House.	Mrs. C. W. PECK.
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LEONARD HIGGS ; " I was born in *Suffolk*, but my family have resided near *Cheltenham* for generations ; our crest is *the Stag's head pierced through the neck by an arrow* ". " That





is the same crest as was used by our Higgs of Thatcham and South Stoke," replied MILLER HIGGS. "Well, we must be some far-off cousins," said LEONARD HIGGS, "but I'll guarantee that you have not in your family a peculiarity we have in ours—namely *two toes of each foot, next the big toe, joined together!*" "Shake hands," said MILLER HIGGS. "No, I won't believe that," said LEONARD HIGGS, and thereupon his son young WILLIAM (nicknamed "Bosun" [Boatswain]) shouted, "Come out on the back of the launch, Cousin Bill, and let me see your foot". MILLER HIGGS consented, taking off his boot and sock; "Dad, it's true", shouted the lad of about fourteen (since married, with a son of his own), and LEONARD the father then said, "Well, that is proof of our blood relationship!" They then discussed what was known of the ancestry in each case, and saw that that peculiarity must have descended for at least twelve or thirteen generations from some prepotent common ancestor.

LEWIS LEONARD SPALDING HIGGS and his family had long been settled on South Pender, one of the islands in the Gulf of Georgia. He was a very well-read man, and was well posted in British Columbia timber. He served overseas during the World War, returning therefrom to die of a cancer on the liver. A man of iron will, he refused to take an anæsthetic, and was operated upon, bearing the pain with most extraordinary courage and self-control and afterwards passed away (*vide* Part II, The HIGGS Family of Suffolk).

Upon a later occasion WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS was stopped on the street in Victoria by a man who said, "*Excuse me, is your name Higgs?*" The reply being in the affirmative he continued, "*I felt sure it was; my name is F. F. Higgs, and you remarkably resemble my father!*" The story of the webbed toes was then related, to which he replied, "*How extraordinary; a daughter of one of my sisters was born with that peculiarity*". He then related how his family some two hundred years or more ago had settled from England in Bermuda, and from thence had moved to Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, where he had been born (*vide* Part II, The HIGGS Family of Prince Edward Island, Chap. XX). He had moved from there to Calgary, and had founded The Calgary Furnishing Company, of which he was the managing director. He had later moved and settled at Albert Head, Metchosin, Vancouver Island, and had then an office in Victoria as a land agent. His son WILLIAM HIGGS is a doctor of medicine, practising at Calgary, Alberta, and recently married.

Such is the outline of the life of WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS and some of his experiences since settling in the vast Dominion of Canada, and, though like the "Bunch of Daisies", so beautifully written of by his kinsman RICHARD HIGGS of Coxhill Farm, Shepherdswell (*vide* Chap. IX), his life has indeed been "Storm-beaten, crushed, and trodden in the mire"; yet he "admits not defeat", and in the winter-time of life there will be a bloom to be gathered by the Great Gardener, and perhaps many memories of earnest effort made for the good of others, and of a faith in the love of the Eternal Creator which has stood through all failure and the fiercest of trials.

ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS, the second son born to WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS of Stockwell, was born at Kennington 2 September, 1881; he was educated at Manor House School, in the old town of Clapham. Upon leaving school he entered his father's business, wherein he eventually became a director, and upon his father's decease a managing director of the firm of Higgs & Hill, Ltd. He also succeeded his father as Treasurer of the Spurgeon Orphan Homes at Stockwell, in which he takes the keenest interest. On 7 January, 1903, he was married at Streatham Wesleyan Church to MAUDE UNITY, elder daughter of the late JAMES EDWARD PASSMORE, Esq., then a member of the publishing firm of ALABASTER, PASSMORE & SONS, descended from the ancient family of PASSMORE of Passmore Hayes, in the parish of Tiverton, Co. Devon, as shown on the pedigree recorded in the College of Arms, London. They made





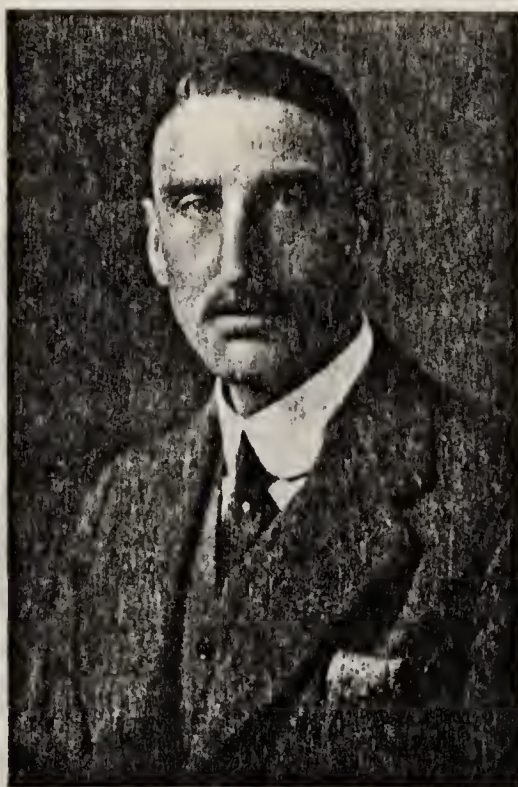
their home at Surbiton-on-Thames, in the county of Surrey, calling their house "Warden", after the family estate in the Isle of Sheppey. After his father's decease ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS purchased a piece of property in the Corkran Road on Surbiton Hill, where he built a house, his cousin, H. F. MURRELL, being the architect. During the World War he rendered service as a Special Constable.



WARDEN, CORKRAN ROAD, SURBITON, THE RESIDENCE OF ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS AND FAMILY.



THE ARMS OF  
HIGGS  
OF  
COLD ASH  
THATCHAM  
CO. BERKS.



ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS OF SURBITON-ON-THAMES,  
CO. SURREY.



THE ARMS OF  
PASSMORE  
OF  
PASSMORE HAYES  
CO. DEVON.

His wife's father and grandfather were members of the Metropolitan Tabernacle Church and held office as deacons, and likewise her mother's father Mr. THOMAS OLNEY was a deacon of that assembly. The interesting group given in this book shows the Rev. CHARLES HADDON SPURGEON and his private secretary, Mr. HARRALD, in company with Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM HIGGS of Stockwell, and the grandparents of MAUDE UNITY HIGGS, Mr. and Mrs. JOSEPH PASSMORE, taken at Mentone in December, 1889.







MAUDE UNITY, DAUGHTER OF JAMES EDWARD PASSMORE AND WIFE OF ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS.



Standing behind  
the old  
Greyhound Coach.



Driving.

ROBERT PASSMORE HIGGS, ONLY SON OF ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS AND MAUDE UNITY PASSMORE, HIS WIFE.







MARGARET FAITH.



VIOLET MAUDE HOPE,  
with her wire-haired terrier "Billie".



NORAH UNITY.

THE THREE DAUGHTERS OF ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS AND MAUDE UNITY PASSMORE, HIS WIFE, OF SURBITON, CO. SURREY.



ROBERT PASSMORE HIGGS DRIVING IN ST. JAMES'S PARK, LONDON, 1928.

The leaders of this team (owned by W. J. SMITH, LTD.) took First Prize Tandem at the International Horse Show, Olympia, London, the same year.

In the above picture a rest was being taken after driving up Bond Street, along Oxford Street and down Regent Street into St. James's Park—quite a drive for a lad at the age of 16! This was probably the last coach to be seen in Oxford Street, as that street was closed to horses just after.





The following children have been born to ROBERT PERCIVAL and MAUDE UNITY HIGGS :

- I. ROBERT PASSMORE HIGGS, their only son, born 31 July, 1912. He is now (1930) at Eastbourne College, and expects upon the completion of his studies to become articled to a firm of stockbrokers on the London Stock Exchange. A great lover



CHARLOTTE LETITIA HIGGS  
TAKEN DURING THE WORLD WAR.



MARGUERITE ELLEN, WIFE OF  
WILLIAM LUTHER COOK, OF SHORTLANDS, CO. KENT.

of horses, his great uncle HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS left him his driving whips, and in taking lessons in coach-driving he has shown considerable skill in handling four-in-hand teams. He is a keen cricketer. Attractive and enjoyable as the former hobby is, like yachting, coaching is a very expensive one. The old "Tally Ho!" and the old "Greyhound" coaches are now (1930) the only two survivors of the many road coaches which used to brighten the lives of the travelling public, and after 1930 it is said that the "Greyhound" will be the last of the old public four-in-hand. When it is considered that £5000 per annum is a moderate computation of the cost of running teams of twenty-four horses and the coach, which every day but Sunday runs some sixty miles, it will be readily understood that this delightful and fashionable hobby of pre-World War days cannot last much longer under entirely changed conditions. To-day subscribers to these road coaches—amateur drivers of exceptional skill—pay no less than £300 a season of four months, and







for this sum they have the privilege of driving one day a week. ROBERT PASSMORE HIGGS, who has inherited his great-uncle HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS's skill in driving, is a favourite with a number of subscribers, and is often permitted to take a stage of the road. In the illustrations he is shown with "the ribbands" on the box seat, and also standing behind the old "Greyhound" coach owned by Mr. F. H. UNWIN.



GROUP TAKEN ON FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY OF CHARLOTTE LETITIA HIGGS.

*Back row.*—Left to right: CYRIL COOK, ANNA MARIA HIGGS, ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS, WILLIAM LUTHER COOK, ROBERT PASSMORE HIGGS.

*Middle row.*—MARGARET FAITH HIGGS, CHARLOTTE HIGGS, MAUDE UNITY, wife of ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS, CHARLOTTE LETITIA HIGGS, MARGUERITE ELLEN, wife of WILLIAM LUTHER COOK, SARAH NASH HIGGS, VIOLET MAUDE HOPE HIGGS.

*Front row.*—BERNARD COOK, JOYCE COOK, JOHN COOK.

- (1) MARGARET FAITH, born 23 February, 1904.
- (2) VIOLET MAUDE HOPE, born 13 September, 1906.
- (3) NORAH UNITY, born 10 March, 1914.

CHARLES WARDEN HIGGS was the third son of WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS. He was born at Sussex Lodge, Stockwell, on 22 August, 1885. He was, however, taken with pleurisy, and died in infancy 14 March, 1886, and was interred in the family grave at Norwood Cemetery.





The two daughters of WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS of Stockwell are :

- (1) CHARLOTTE LETITIA, born 29 August, 1879, at Kennington. She has never married, but devoted her life to her parents whilst they lived. The Latin words on the signet ring she wears, given to her by her brother WILLIAM, "Studio minimi ignavi : spiritu ferventes : Domini servientes", surrounding the initials of her name, not only are especially appropriate to her, but form a motto emblematical of the lives of her ancestors, all of whom it may truthfully be said were men "Not slothful in business : fervent in spirit : serving the Lord". She has been a most devoted aunt to her nephews and nieces, and though suffering much since her parents' decease, in bodily pain and weakness, lives a most unselfish life in doing all she can for others. During the World War she rendered valuable service as a V.A.D. at the Lambeth Auxiliary Hospital at Dulwich.
  - (2) MARGUERITE ELLEN, the youngest child born to WILLIAM and CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH HIGGS, was born at the time of the Jubilee of QUEEN VICTORIA, 16 June, 1887. She married WILLIAM LUTHER COOK, the eldest son of Mr. JOSHUA JAMES COOK of Lambeth (who was one of the deacons of the Metropolitan Tabernacle Church, and a descendant of the COOKS of Halstead in the county of Essex, in which place the SPURGEON family was settled for many generations), by ELIZABETH POTIER, his wife, of French Huguenot stock. The marriage took place 4 December, 1913, at Christ Church, Westminster Bridge Road, London, and has been blessed with a family of three sons and one daughter :
    1. CYRIL MARTIN COOK, born 11 January, 1915.
    2. WILLIAM BERNARD COOK, born 17 November, 1916.
    3. JOHN CHARLTON COOK, born 5 November, 1920.
- (1) MARGUERITE JOYCE COOK, born 6 September, 1918.





ADAM HIGGS of  
Cold Ash Thatcham  
bur: 27 FEB. 1807

MARY LAWRENCE  
m. 23 DEC. 1753  
bur: 9 SEP. 1766

GEORGE CORDEROY  
depr. at CHICHELEY BERK  
1734.

MARTHA NORTHWAY  
m. 3 JAN. 1765.

..... NASH

..... RICHARD NASH

JOHN RANDALL  
Ship-builder of  
ROTHERHITHE  
died about 1776

..... SARAH RANDALL

GEORGE CHARLTON  
son of Bartholomew  
of Northampton

HANNAH CLEAVER  
DICKENS  
probably son of  
Thomas & Mary  
DICKENS of PHASEY  
HAM.

..... FOYLE

..... CHARLES FOYLE

..... ANN

..... JOHN MILLER

LUCY

HENRY PETMAN  
born 1732  
died 6 SEP. 1803

MARY

..... SMITH

..... JAMES ADLEY

THOMAS TURNER  
of SEASALTER

Ann

..... PERKINS

..... SPAIN

..... ELIZABETH SPAIN

..... CATHERINE PERKINS

..... JOHN PERKINS

..... SARAH SMITH

..... MARGARET SARAH SMITH

..... WILLIAM ADLEY

..... ELIZABETH TURNER

..... WILLIAM ADLEY

..... CATHERINE PERKINS

..... JOHN PERKINS

..... SARAH SMITH

..... MARGARET SARAH SMITH

SAMSON HIGGS  
of Cold Ash  
b. 1762 d. 14 APR. 1829

ANN CORDEROY  
b. 1767 d. 1837.

..... RICHARD NASH

..... SARAH NASH

..... SARAH RANDALL

..... GEORGE CHARLTON

..... MARY DICKENS

..... CHARLES FOYLE

..... ANN

..... JOHN MILLER

LUCY

HENRY PETMAN

MARY

..... SMITH

..... JAMES ADLEY

THOMAS TURNER

Ann

..... PERKINS

..... SPAIN

..... ELIZABETH SPAIN

..... CATHERINE PERKINS

..... JOHN PERKINS

..... SARAH SMITH

..... MARGARET SARAH SMITH

..... WILLIAM ADLEY

..... ELIZABETH TURNER

..... WILLIAM ADLEY

..... CATHERINE PERKINS

..... JOHN PERKINS

..... SARAH SMITH

..... MARGARET SARAH SMITH

..... WILLIAM ADLEY

..... CATHERINE PERKINS

..... JOHN PERKINS

CALEB HIGGS

of Cold Ash Co Berks  
& of the Par. of  
STREATHAM CO. SURREY

born: 12 JAN. 1795  
died: 27 JUNE 1876

..... WILLIAM HIGGS

of LAMBETH & Lord  
of the Manor of  
WARDEN Isle of Shep-  
hey. KENT.

born: 5 SEP. 1793  
died: 4 JUNE 1879

..... WILLIAM HIGGS

of STOCKWELL  
Par. of LAMBETH.

born: 16 MAY 1852  
died: 17 JAN. 1921

..... WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS

born 23 MAY 1878

..... ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS

born 2 SEPT. 1881

..... CHARLES WARDEN HIGGS

born 22 AUG. 1885

..... CHARLOTTE LETITIA HIGGS

born 29 AUG. 1879

..... MARGUERITE ELLEN

born 16 SEPT. 1887

..... WILLIAM LUTHER COOK

..... CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH MILLER

born: 14 MAY 1856

m. 1 AUG. 1877

d. 11. MAY. 1924

..... ADAMS ADLEY

bapt. in CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

born: 15 NOV. 1821

m. 22 MAY 1850

at St Mary's Par. Ch. Lambeth.

..... CATHERINE PERKINS

bapt: 12 FEB 1795

died: 12 MAR. 1872

..... JOHN PERKINS

BIRTH BRIEF of Six  
Generations - showing  
the Paternal & Maternal des-  
cent of the children of -  
WILLIAM & CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH  
HIGGS of Stockwell as far as  
is known. When complete 32 families







## CHAPTER XI

## George Higgs of Streatham

THE fourth son of CALEB HIGGS and SARAH NASH, his wife, was GEORGE HIGGS, of Christchurch Road, Streatham Hill, London. He was born at Ferry Street, Lambeth, on 8 November, 1826, during the reign of KING GEORGE IV. He was educated at a private school near Lambeth Walk, and took his share with his brothers



THE IMPALED ARMS OF  
GEORGE HIGGS OF STREATHAM,  
CO. SURREY, WITH THE ARMS  
AS USED BY THE  
CORDEROY FAMILY OF  
THATCHAM, CO. BERKS.

in connection with the early days of the Dairy Supply business. He was articled to his father's kinsmen Messrs. CORDEROY, the well-known quantity surveyors, then of High Street, Marylebone, for six years, and having made splendid progress in that profession, he entered the Government service in the Admiralty, being in the Director of Works' Department, remaining there all his business life until he retired in 1891, after an efficient and faithful service of forty-five years. He reached the position of Chief Surveyor of Accounts, one of the principal duties of which office was the preparation of estimates to be submitted to Parliament for works required to be done at various naval establishments throughout the Empire, and the examination of the accounts for payment in connection therewith.

In the course of his official career GEORGE HIGGS became associated with many notable naval men, and in looking over his papers after his decease, his son FREDERICK HIGGS came across a letter of thanks for some services he had rendered, written by the beloved but unfortunate Admiral TRYON, who went down in the terrible disaster when the "Camperdown" rammed the flagship "Victoria" during the manœuvres in the Mediterranean. Upon his retirement from the Government service GEORGE HIGGS devoted his leisure to philanthropic and religious work. He was trustee for many of his relatives, young and old, and his chief interest was to serve others and make them happy as he himself was. All his younger relatives and friends adored him, looking to him for consolation in their sorrows and felicitation in their joys. His heart and mind remained young, clear and receptive right up to the last, and the interest he took in current topics and events was marvellous. With his eyes ever on the future there was no room for pessimism in his composition.

GEORGE HIGGS was not, however, without his sorrows, as in his early married life—1862—he lost two little sons within a few days of each other by fever, and years later—1903—the death of his youngest son with tragic suddenness, a blow which undermined the health of his much beloved wife, who died in 1905.

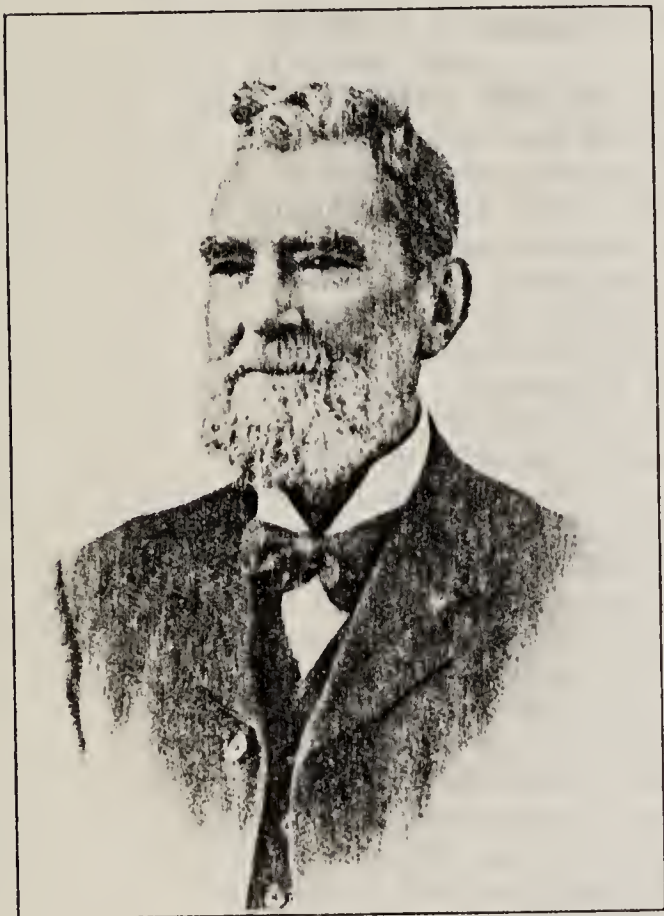
It was in 1853, on 12 July, that GEORGE HIGGS married ANN SMITH CORDEROY, the third daughter of GEORGE CORDEROY, Esq., of Ickenham Hall, Uxbridge, in the county





of Middlesex, by ANN SMITH, his wife. She was his second cousin, GEORGE CORDEROY of Ickenham Hall being the eldest son of GEORGE CORDEROY and MARY DOWNING (*née* NEWBERRY) his wife, of Lambeth, and descendant of the old Thatcham family.

They first made their home at Loughborough Park, Brixton, and joined the Baptist Church, worshipping at Denmark Place Chapel in Camberwell, the Rev. Dr. STEANE being then minister, followed by the Rev. Dr. STANFORD. For over thirty years GEORGE



*George Higgs*

His signature when over 90 years of age.

GEORGE HIGGS, 1826-1924, OF STREATHAM, CO. SURREY.  
Chief Surveyor of Accounts to the Admiralty during the Reign  
of Queen Victoria,

AND

ANN SMITH, DAUGHTER OF GEORGE CORDEROY, ESQ., OF ICKENHAM HALL,  
UXBRIDGE, CO. MIDDLESEX, AND WIFE OF GEORGE HIGGS  
OF STREATHAM, CO. SURREY.

HIGGS filled the office of a deacon of that church. Upon removing to Streatham Hill he transferred his membership to the Roupell Park Wesleyan Church, in connection with which he was one of the most regular attendants and one of its oldest members, covering a period of forty years. His activities there, owing naturally to his advancing years, were not so prominent as at Camberwell, but he was a class leader, treasurer of the Sunday school, and an earnest friend and supporter of all the work of the church. A short and happily almost painless illness brought about the end of a life of consecration





to his Lord and Saviour, devotion to his duty, tenderness and compassion for the friendless and sick, endeared him to all, and a big gap has been left in many circles since GEORGE HIGGS passed away.

The memory of his gracious and saintly personality will remain fragrant, and an inspiration and stimulus to all whose privilege it was to know him. He truly "walked with God and was not for God took him" on 8 April, 1925, *exactly ninety-eight years and five months old, and having lived under five British sovereigns.*

The following family were born to GEORGE and ANN SMITH HIGGS :

1. **GEORGE CORDEROY HIGGS**, born 26 March, 1856; he died of fever 10 October, 1862.
2. **FREDERICK HIGGS** of Streatham Hill, London, was born 20 January, 1858. After leaving school and serving his apprenticeship to the building trade with his uncle WILLIAM HIGGS (the founder of the firm of Higgs & Hill, Ltd.), he started in business on his own at Station Works, Hinton Road, Herne Hill, London, in 1880. After a few years he was joined by his uncle WILLIAM'S youngest son, HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS. This partnership was continued until 1914, when the younger partner retired and the business was then formed into a limited company, in which company FREDERICK HIGGS took an active interest up to within three weeks of his death. FREDERICK HIGGS was one with an inborn love of country life, and for some years before his decease owned a rural property at Forest Green, in the county of Surrey. *He was a keen antiquarian and genealogist*, and spent many years of his life in research work; he was typically a *Berkshire man*; a man of high integrity and purpose, and his kindliness of heart and generosity endeared him to many. It is to his memory that this book is dedicated, for it was his set purpose to publish it had he lived, and he gave much time and money with this end in view. He revered the splendid yeoman stock from whom he had sprung, and recognized that his forefathers had set a wonderful example in their lives. It was therefore his hope that this family history might serve not only as a record of the lives of the worthy men who each has contributed his part in the making of this history, but that the printed record might be a help to future generations to follow in their steps.

FREDERICK HIGGS was a scholar of the City of London School, where he had a good record, and remained till the end of his life a member of the John Carpenter Club. He was President of the London Master Builders' Association in 1905, President of the Builders' Benevolent Institution in 1907, and in 1910 was elected to the Presidency of the Institute of Builders. For many years he generously gave his services as examiner; he was nominated by the Institute of Builders for the City and Guilds of London Institute, and latterly, though handicapped by ill health, acted as an Institute of Builders' examiner in the chief subject of their Associate examination. He became President of the National Federation of Building Trade Employers in 1914.

During the World War he rendered service as a Special Constable; as a member of the London Regiment of Volunteers formed for Home Defence; and as a member of the City of London Motor Volunteer Corps in connection with which, for two years, drove his own car every week from midnight until 6 a.m., conveying service men arriving at the Northern Railway Termini across London to Victoria Station on returning to foreign duty, and during those two years it was reckoned he covered no less than 5000 miles.

For over thirty years Mr. FREDERICK HIGGS was a member of the Upper Norwood Athenæum Society, a local club formed for arousing enthusiasm in antiquarian subjects, and during the earlier days of his membership conducted many interesting rambles. He became Chairman of this long-ago established society in 1908, and was always one of its most popular members. After some months of suffering FREDERICK HIGGS passed away 13 August, 1928. A beautiful memorial tablet in English oak has been erected in Forest Green Chapel, Surrey, by his sisters and brother-in-law, C. O. ALDOUS, to his memory, and to that of his saintly father, and an illustration of this is given on page 186.

3. **ALFRED CORDEROY HIGGS** was the third son of GEORGE and ANN SMITH HIGGS of Streatham Hill. He was born 2 July, 1860, but died of fever two years later on 14 October, 1862.





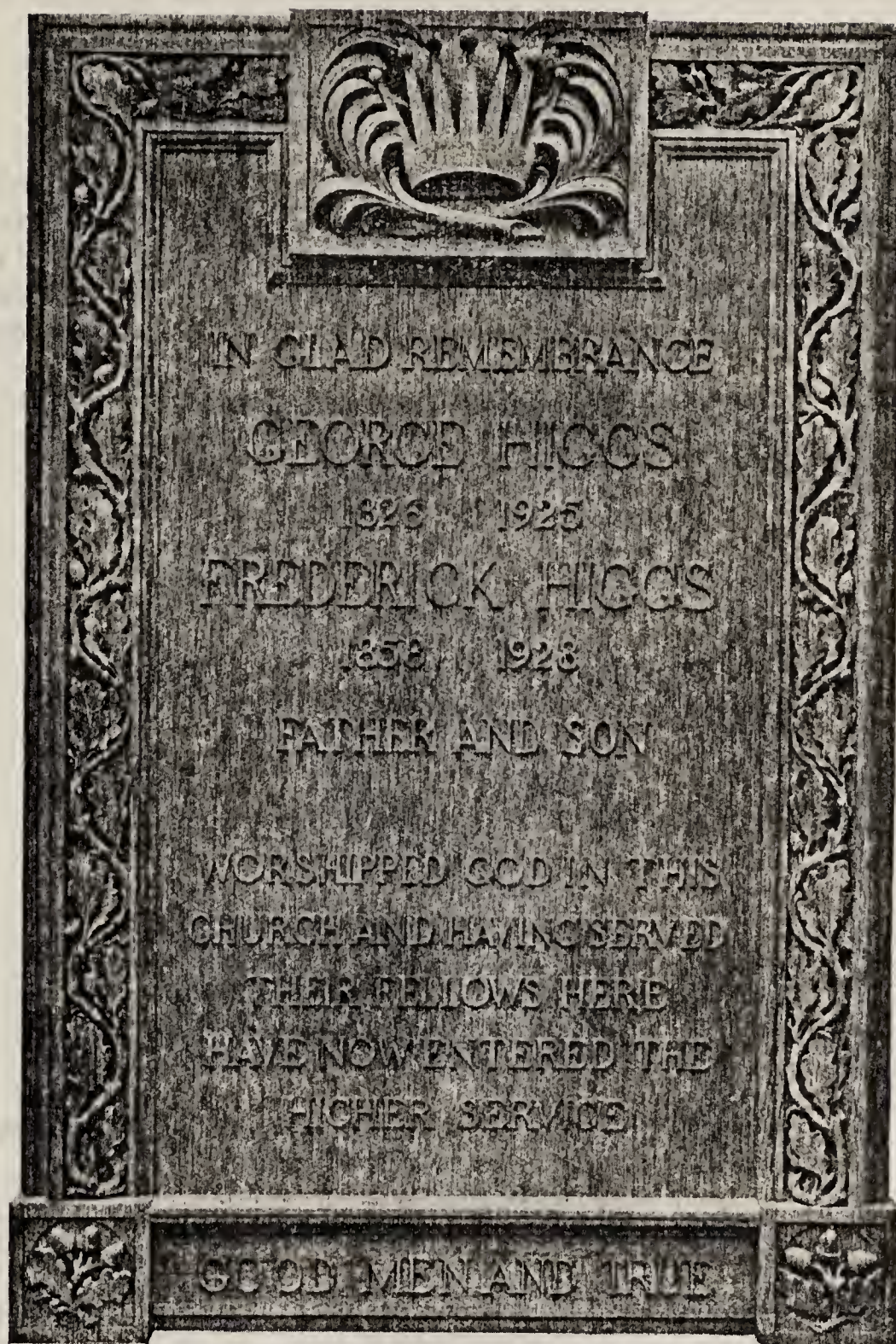
4. **EDWARD CORDEROY HIGGS**, fourth son of GEORGE and ANN SMITH HIGGS, was born 11 June, 1872. Though suffering from spinal tuberculosis he was a wonderful example of the triumph of mind over matter, and was a very gifted amateur artist with pencil and brush. He lived till the age of thirty, and carried on a small building business at Cobham in Surrey, which after his death, 2 March, 1903, became a branch of Messrs. F. & H. F. HIGGS.
    - (1) ANNIE, the eldest daughter of GEORGE and ANN SMITH HIGGS; she was born 19 May, 1854, and has never married. She now (1930) resides at Beckenham, Co. Kent, with her sister HARRIET.
    - (2) MARY CORDEROY, the second daughter of GEORGE and ANN SMITH HIGGS, was born 17 May, 1863. She married, 21 August, 1889, CHARLES OCTAVIUS ALDOUS (son of Mr. JAMES ALDOUS, of Berwick Street, London, W.), a tea merchant—he was born 8 March, 1857)—by whom she had the following family of two sons and one daughter:
      1. BASIL CHARLES ALDOUS, born 31 March, 1891. He saw active service in the World War, and held a commission in the Royal Engineers (503rd Field Co., B.E.F.). He married 18 December, 1917, VERA FLORENCE BARRETT, daughter of Mr. F. BARRETT, of Upper Norwood, Co. Surrey, by whom he has two daughters:
        - (1) VERA JOYCE ALDOUS, born 19 May, 1919.
        - (2) EILEEN, born 16 February, 1922.
      2. GEORGE JAMES ALDOUS, born 19 January, 1894. During the World War he held a commission as Captain in the 98th Brigade (Artillery) and won the Military Cross. Died 23 April, 1929.
    - (1) ALICE MARY (ALDOUS), born 7 April, 1899. She married 3 July, 1920, at Christ Church, Gipsy Hill, Norwood, ALFRED HENRY SIDNEY LANE, then of Queen's Avenue, Old Trafford, Manchester, son of Mr. ALFRED LEE CORE LANE of Croydon, in the county of Surrey, by EMMA ORLAINA WILLIAMS his wife, and grandson of Capt. JOHN WILLIAM LANE, a master mariner, who had his home at Rotherhithe, Co. Kent. ALFRED H. S. LANE was born 7 March, 1891, and educated at the Whitgift Grammar School, Croydon, and the Royal Technical College at Glasgow, and then served an apprenticeship to the well-known firm of Yarrow & Co., Ltd., Glasgow. During the World War he served as an Engineer Officer in the Mercantile Marine from 1914 to 1916, and then as Temporary-Engineer Officer in H.M. Navy until demobilization in 1919, with the rank of Engineer-Lieutenant R.N., since which time he has been a surveyor to Lloyd's Register of Shipping. ALFRED H. S. and ALICE MARY LANE have one son and one daughter:
      1. ALFRED GEORGE, born 30 November, 1929.
      - (1) AUDREY MARY, born 16 April, 1925.
- MARY CORDEROY ALDOUS died 30 August, 1926. Her two sons succeeded her brother, FREDERICK HIGGS, and cousin, HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS, in their business, which had been turned into a company under the name of F. & H. F. HIGGS, Ltd.
- (3) HARRIET CORDEROY, the third daughter of GEORGE and ANN SMITH HIGGS, was born 30 September, 1869. She has never married, and lives with her sister ANNIE at Beckenham, in the county of Kent.

Such is the record of the family and descendants of GEORGE and ANN SMITH HIGGS of Streatham Hill, London, the deceased members of which are interred in the family grave in Norwood Cemetery.









MEMORIAL TABLET IN FOREST GREEN CHAPEL, SURREY.





## CHAPTER XII

## James Higgs of Streatham

JAMES HIGGS of Streatham Hill, in the county of Surrey, was the fifth son of CALEB HIGGS and SARAH NASH, his wife, of Lambeth, Surrey, and later of Mitcham in that county. He was born 20 July, 1829. After leaving school he was put to learn cheese-mongering and butter-making as a branch of his father's dairy supply business; later he went to Cheam to assist his eldest brother in his farm there, and then subsequently



JAMES HIGGS OF "HIGHBRIDGE", PALACE ROAD, STREATHAM HILL,  
CO. SURREY, 1829-about 1900.

*From an early portrait by R. Bishop, photographer,  
29, Kennington Park Road, London.*

carried on a dairy farm of his own at Merton Road, Wandsworth, and resided at New Street, Kennington Park Road, for many years. He married, in 1851, SARAH ANN, daughter of Mr. JOHN LIMBREY of Tring, in the county of Hertford, by whom he had one son and five daughters. Later in life he retired to a residence on Brixton Hill, where he lived until his decease. He died suddenly about 1900 of heart disease and was interred in Norwood Cemetery.

The family of JAMES and SARAH ANN HIGGS are as follows :

- I. **JOHN LIMBREY HIGGS**, only son, born 2 July, 1864. He was trained for the law, and for some time practised as a solicitor. In 1887 he married FLORENCE ALICE, daughter of Mr. JAMES MARTIN, of Palace Road, Tulse Hill Park, London, by whom he had one son and one daughter :





- I. **SYDNEY LIMBREY HIGGS**, M.A., M.B., B.Ch.(Camb.), 1919, F.R.C.S.(Eng.), 1922, M.D., 1917, L.R.C.P.(Lond.), 1917 (Cambridge and St. Bartholomew's), of 11, Chester Place, Regent's Park, London, was born 12 September, 1892. Studying medicine and surgery, on the outbreak of the World War he served as Surgeon-Lieut. in H.M.S. "Curlew" (then about twenty-two years of age). Since the war he has been Surgeon at the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital and Assistant Surgeon, Orthopaedic Department, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, where he was Demonstrator of Anatomy to the Medical School, Surgeon at several other hospitals and Surgeon, R.N. He married BETTY, daughter of the late GEORGE ALFRED CHUNE FLETCHER, M.D., by whom he has a daughter, JENNIFER LIMBREY, born 23 September, 1930.
- (1) **LOTTIE LIMBREY**, born 3 July, 1890. During the World War she rendered valuable service as a masseuse at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. She married D. CAMERON, Esq., M.D., who has a practice at Cranleigh, in the county of Surrey (about five miles from Forest Green). They have the following children :
  - I. **DONALD CAMERON**, born 1930.
  - (1) **ANNE**, born 1923.
  - (2) **DIANA**, born 1926.
- (1) **SARAH**, the eldest daughter of JAMES and SARAH ANN HIGGS, was born 11 October, 1852. She married Dr. SYDNEY LLOYD SMITH (son of Mr. W. F. SMITH) of Argyll Square, King's Cross, London, in which locality he had his practice, and by him had three sons, two of whom died young. She died in 1916, leaving the one surviving son, CECIL LLOYD SMITH.
- (2) **CAROLINE**, the second daughter of JAMES and SARAH ANN HIGGS, was born 24 May, 1856. She died unmarried in 1908.
- (3) **ELIZABETH**, the third daughter of JAMES and SARAH ANN HIGGS, was born 6 October, 1857. In 1886 she married REGINALD, son of Mr. JOHN WISKARD, one of the directors of the firm of APPLETON & Co., tea and produce merchants, and by him has three daughters, GLADYS, JOYCE and CLAIRE. GLADYS became the wife of a coal merchant named LEBON; JOYCE (WISKARD) married, in 1916, CECIL F. CURTIS, third son of C. HARRY CURTIS of Blandford by ALICE MARY, his wife, daughter of Mr. JOHN HOPSON of Newbury, Co. Berks, by his first wife, a daughter of Mr. W. C. LAY of Brook Street, Newbury. This was the same JOHN HOPSON who married secondly MARIA, daughter of Mr. JOSHUA HIGGS of Davis Street, Berkeley Square, London, and of Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks. The HOPSON family had been long connected with Newbury, and one JOSEPH HOPSON was Mayor of that town in 1882. JOHN HOPSON was a grandson of the JOHN HOPSON who witnessed the will of JAMES HIGGS of Cold Ash in 1763, the great-grandfather of JOSHUA HIGGS and of CALEB HIGGS, the grandfather of ELIZABETH, who became the wife of REGINALD WISKARD. The crest as used by this family of HOPSON was "A stag lodged ppr." JOSHUA HIGGS's second wife was one CARRIE HOPSON, a member of this family.  
 Mr. JOHN HOPSON, the grandfather of CECIL F. CURTIS, was born in Newbury in 1823. His father died when he was but nineteen years of age, and the responsibility of caring for his widowed mother and ten younger brothers and sisters fell upon his shoulders. He succeeded to his father's business as a building contractor in Newbury and became the leading builder in that town. He was a strong non-conformist, and for over fifty-five years was connected with the Congregational (Independent) Chapel, and at the time of his decease at the age of eighty-three in 1907 he was the oldest member of the Congregational Church. He retired from business life in 1883. CECIL F. CURTIS is one of the firm of TANTZ & Co., West London Tailors.
- (4) **ROSA** was the fourth daughter of JAMES and SARAH ANN HIGGS. She was born 29 May, 1859, and died unmarried in February, 1890.
- (5) **JESSIE MARY** was their youngest daughter. She married, 1 September, 1898, HENRY HANKS WILLIAMS, a solicitor, the second son of Mr. HENRY WILLIAMS of Horsham in the county of Surrey, by whom she has one son and two daughters :
  - I. **REX WILLIAMS**.
  - (1) **GWENDOLINE**.
  - (2) **JOAN**.







GEORGE FLETCHER, 1821-1873.

## THE MATERNAL ANCESTRY of JENNIFER LIMBREY HIGGS

GEORGE FLETCHER

"Gentleman" & Quaker  
of the same family  
whose name has become  
immortalised by the  
book "JOHN HALIFAX  
Gentleman"  
born at HEREFORD 1821  
died: 1873

GEORGE ALFRED  
CHUNE FLETCHER MD  
of CHARTERHOUSE, received  
his training at St. Bartholomew's  
Hospital, LONDON.  
born: 1855 - died: 1913.  
Like his father he was a  
Quaker.

DIANA = GEOFFREY CHAMPNEYS  
Of an ancient Norman family  
who settled at OSTENHANGER  
TOW WESTENHANGER in the  
County of Kent & whose name  
appear as "CHAMPENEY" from  
CHAMPAGNE in NORMANDY in the six  
known versions of the so-called  
"Roll of Battle Abbey". His  
father's seat OTTERFOL MANOR  
WESTHANGER has been lived in  
by the CHAMPNEYS in a direct line from  
the 16<sup>th</sup> century. One of his ancestors  
SIR JUSTINIAN CHAMPNEYS was one of  
the 12 knights who presented the petition to K. Charles I.

THE ANCIENT  
ARMS of  
CHAMPENEY  
or CHAMPNEYS

..... JONES

a member also of  
the Society of Friends

GEORGE FLETCHER  
was for many years  
Editor of -  
"The Hereford Times"

MAUD  
HENGLER  
born: 1860  
died: 1915

JENNY LOUISE  
who according to  
the Dictionary of  
National Biography  
"Obtained a wide reputation  
as an accomplished equestrienne"

PHCEBE = SIR ARTHUR MICHAEL  
SAMUEL 1st Baronet.  
of MANCROFT in the City of  
Norwich, eldest son of  
the late BENJAMIN SAMUEL  
of NORWICH Co. NORFOLK  
by ROSETTA eldest dau.  
of PHILIP HALDINSTEIN  
of NORWICH, his wife.  
b. at Norwich 1872  
U. M. P. for the FARNHAM Div.  
of SURREY since DEC 1918  
In 1925 he took the SURNAME

STORMONT-MANCROFT.  
SAMUEL MANCROFT 2<sup>nd</sup> by DEED  
born: 1914 dau. POLL

HENRY HENGLER = ...

whose name (like that of BLOMFIELD) became  
famous as a tight rope walker at VAUXHALL GARDENS

EDWARD JOHN FREDERICK MARY  
HENRY MILTON CHARLES ANN  
HENGLER HENGLER HENGLER FRANCES  
the 3 divisions were born at CAMBRIDGE  
caught the circus 1820  
business by their  
father FREDERICK  
built building up  
a remarkable string  
of CIRCUSES & died  
with the value of his  
PERSONALTY worth to be  
28 SEPT 1887

died at CAMBRIDGE House  
FITZJOHN'S AVENUE  
HAMPSTEAD Co. MIDDLESEX

Vide:  
Dict. National  
Biography  
for full de-  
tails of F. C.  
HENGLER'S  
remarkable  
career.

4 other daughters  
3 sons  
To the two younger their  
father left the management  
of the many circuses in  
various parts of London  
and the Provinces,  
which they soon afterwards sold

BETTY = SYDNEY  
LIMBREY HIGGS  
MA, MB, B.Ch  
F.R.C.S (Eng) L.R.C.P.  
(London) of  
11 CHESTER PLACE  
REGENTS PARK  
Surgeon to the  
Royal Nat. Orthop.  
Hospital  
Surgeon R.N.  
Only son of the  
late JOHN LIMBREY  
HIGGS, b. 12 SEPT.  
1892



J.L.H.





## CHAPTER XIII

## John Higgs, Yeoman of Orpington

JOHN HIGGS of Orpington, in the county of Kent, was the youngest and sixth son of CALEB HIGGS, of Furzedown Farm, Mitcham Lane, in the parish of Streatham, Co. Surrey—formerly of Lambeth, London, and of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks.

He was born 30 November, 1830, and after leaving school he turned his attention to dairy farming for a while, but later branched out with the able assistance of his son



CROFTON POUND FARM, ORPINGTON, KENT, THE HOME OF JOHN HIGGS AND FAMILY.

JOHN MAY HIGGS into fruit farming upon a large scale, and the name of "JOHN HIGGS & SON" became widely known as one of the largest fruit-growing firms in Kent, annually picking many acres of strawberries besides other fruit for Covent Garden Market, London.

JOHN HIGGS was about thirty-five years of age when he took Crofton Farm in the parish of Orpington. At first his family continued to reside at Newington, where JOHN HIGGS first lived and carried on business as a dairy farmer, only spending the summer months at Crofton, but later Crofton Farm became the home of the family.

The farm was a portion of the ancient Manor of Crofton, which formed part of the possessions of ODO, BISHOP OF BAIEUX. In the reign of EDWARD I this manor had become the inheritance of RALPH DE WIBOURN, from which ownership it went about the reign of EDWARD III to SIR ROBERT BELKNAP. On the death of his descendant SIR EDWARD BELKNAP, who died without issue (12 Henry VIII) this estate became the





property of SIR WILLIAM SHELLEY, the husband of SIR EDWARD'S sister ALICE, who sold the manor to SIR ROBERT READ, Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and he conveyed it to the Hospital of the Savoy, London. At the suppression of this hospital (7 Edward VI), the King gave part of its estates, *including Crofton Manor*, to the citizens of London towards maintaining his house of Bridewell and the Hospital of St. Thomas; and on a division of the gift this estate was allotted to *St. Thomas's Hospital, London, with the trustees of which the inheritance still remains*. It will be remembered that WILLIAM, the



*John Higgs*

JOHN HIGGS, YEOMAN OF ORPINGTON, CO. KENT, 1830-1905  
(SIXTH SON OF CALIB HIGGS AND SARAH NASH, HIS WIFE).

brother of JOHN HIGGS, of Crofton Farm, Orpington, was a Life Governor of St. Thomas's Hospital. Such is the interesting history of the Manor of Crofton, and the property which was the home of JOHN HIGGS and his family for so many years.

JOHN HIGGS took a very keen interest in local public affairs, and in 1880, when the first school board for Orpington was formed, he ran for election and headed the poll with 474 votes, the then Vicar of the parish coming next with 386. He was the first Chairman of that Board, and retained that position until 1886, when a change took place in the constitution of the Board. JOHN HIGGS was also for many years a member





of the old Parochial Committee, and one of the members of the first Parish Council created under the Act of 1894, at Orpington. For about eleven years he was a member of the Bromley Union Board of Guardians and the Rural District Council, being elected Chairman of the latter body in 1903, again in 1904, and for a third time in 1905, the year of his decease. In politics JOHN HIGGS was a Liberal of the John Bright school of thought, and occupied the position of Chairman of the local Liberal Association for several years. He was a "passive resister". He worshipped at the Orpington Baptist Church, and on the Sunday following his decease the Rev. G. R. Y. FEARNS said: "*Mr. Higgs was one we could ill spare; a man of many parts, and one who had served his generation with unspotted integrity and inspiring devotion; a man whose wisdom and love of fair play inspired friends and opponents alike with confidence and respect*". At the Rural District Council a striking tribute to the character of JOHN HIGGS was paid by SIR HENRY LEONARD, J.P., C.C., in the following words:

"I have heard this morning of the death of our Chairman, Mr. HIGGS, and I must say of our old and beloved friend, and I am sure that you will all agree with me, that our loss—as well as that of Mr. HIGGS's family—is indeed a great one. Personally I have known Mr. HIGGS ever since I came on this Council, and I would say that he has acted towards me more as a father than as a member merely of this Council. Mr. HIGGS, both on this Council and at the Board of Guardians, was respected everywhere. If there has at any time been any trouble everybody has listened with respect when Mr. HIGGS has spoken, for he was always the one to pour oil on the troubled waters."

Such was the character of the youngest son of CALEB HIGGS and SARAH NASH, his wife! It is now many years since the writer, as a boy, visited Crofton Farm with his parents, but he vividly recalls walking across the strawberry fields and meeting this Great-uncle JOHN as he stood in the corner of a field with his dog, walking-stick in hand, dressed in knee breeches, leather gaiters, well-fitting waistcoat and jacket, and with his old-fashioned high brown felt hat. A typical descendant of the splendid yeoman stock from which he had sprung, yet with a presence which fitted a country squire and a man of marked refinement, with a countenance which clearly reflected a heart and a soul brimming over with kindness and good nature, and one felt at once drawn to such a man. He died 5 December, 1905, and was interred at Norwood Cemetery.

In 1866 JOHN HIGGS married ANNE (born 8 September, 1842), daughter of Mr. JOHN MAY of Greys Farm, St. Paul's Cray, in the county of Kent, by his second wife. The MAY family had long been seated in the county, and were well known and respected in agricultural circles. Mr. JOHN MAY was a strong Nonconformist of the Baptist persuasion, and it so happened that in the month of October, 1812, a Mr. W. H. Colyer of Farningham, Kent, who was a member of the Eynsford Baptist Church, came to live at Foot's Cray, not far from the MAY's farm, and he licensed his house for Divine Worship by Protestant Dissenters. The little company gathering there soon became too large, and so the "Finishing Room" of the Foot's Cray Paper Mill was placed at their disposal by the then occupier, Mr. STAINES. In 1834-5 a still larger place was needed, and Mr. JOHN MAY of Grey's Farm became one of the chief movers in the matter of the erection of a chapel for public worship. He gave the land, and was a liberal contributor to the cost of its erection. The chapel was opened 24 August, 1836, and the father of ANNE, wife of JOHN HIGGS, became one of the first deacons of the church. JOHN MAY died 9 April, 1865. It will be remembered that JOHN HIGGS's sister REBECCA married THOMAS MAY, who was son of Mr. JOHN MAY, and who likewise became a deacon of this Baptist Church at Foot's Cray in December, 1859. In 1933 Grey's Farm is in the tenancy of CHARLIE HIGGS together with the Crofton Pound property.

By ANNE MAY, his wife, JOHN HIGGS had a large family of two sons and eleven daughters:





1. JOHN MAY HIGGS, born 6 March, 1869 (of whom later).
2. ALFRED CALEB HIGGS, born in January, 1877, and died in infancy 16 April, 1878.
- (1) ANNIE, the eldest daughter, born 29 October, 1866.
- (2) ADA MARY, born 15 December, 1867. She married, 11 February, 1891, ALBERT VINSON, Esq., J.P., of the Parsonage Farm, Belvedere, Kent, the third son of WILLIAM VINSON of Orpington, of a farming family. The name is by no means a common one, and it may be that the VINSONS of Kent are one and the same family as those settled in and around Newbury, Berkshire, in the seventeenth century. Of this marriage there were two sons and three daughters :
  1. ALBERT HIGGS VINSON, born 9 January, 1897. During the World War he became a captain in the Royal Flying Corps and gained distinction in flying over the German lines in France. He was killed whilst flying at Yatesburg in the county of Wilts on 22 March, 1918, and was buried in Erith Cemetery. He left a widow, who was NORA, daughter of Mr. WILLIAMS of Mill Hill School.
  2. HAROLD VINSON, born 14 May, 1902. Married 21 November, 1929, his cousin GLADYS, daughter of HARRY VINSON of Hurst Farm, Bexley, the youngest son of WILLIAM VINSON of Orpington.
  - (1) LUCY VINSON, born 5 January, 1892. She married MARCHANT CYRIL HOLLIDAY, son of Mr. THOMAS HOLLIDAY of Croydon, Co. Surrey, in 1921, and by him has a son :
    1. MICHAEL MARCHANT VINSON HOLLIDAY, born 14 May, 1922.
  - (2) SUSIE VINSON, born 25 November, 1893. She married JOHN BALLANTYNE McNAIR, son of JOHN McNAIR of Lloyd's, London, 17 January, 1918, and by him has :
    1. JOHN DUNCAN McNAIR, born 18 December, 1922.
    - (1) CHRISTINE McNAIR, born 22 January, 1919.
    - (2) MARY McNAIR, born 21 December, 1924.
    - (3) SHEILA LENNOX McNAIR, born 28 July, 1928.
  - (3) ADA VINSON, born 16 June, 1898. She married WALTER HEWITT JONES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., son of THOMAS HYND JONES, 28 February, 1920, and has by him two sons :
    1. DAVID ANTHONY HEWITT JONES, born 27 January, 1926.
    2. TIMOTHY ROBIN VINSON HEWITT JONES, born 21 December, 1927.
  - (4) KATHLEEN MARY VINSON, born 30 April, 1908. She married, 4 September, 1929, CECIL STRETTON GERRISH, son of ERNEST STRETTON GERRISH (Solicitor), by whom she has a daughter, BRIGID MARY (GERRISH), born 29 March, 1932.
  - (3) SUSANNA, the third daughter of JOHN and ANNE HIGGS of Crofton Farm, Orpington, was born 6 April, 1870.
  - (4) SARAH NASH, the fourth daughter of JOHN and ANNE HIGGS, was born 13 May, 1871.
  - (5) ELLEN, the fifth daughter of JOHN and ANNE HIGGS, was born 17 June, 1872, and married 1 September, 1899, ERNEST WALTER BIGGS, son of JAMES BIGGS of Orpington, Co. Kent, and by him has a son :
    1. PERCY JOHN BIGGS, born 9 June, 1903. Married 9 July, 1930, FRANCES M. WILKINS of Worthing, by whom he has a son, KENNETH JOHN BIGGS, born 3 May, 1932.
  - (6) LUCY, the sixth daughter of JOHN and ANNE HIGGS, was born 22 June, 1873.
  - (7) EDITH, the seventh daughter of JOHN and ANNE HIGGS, was born 24 December, 1874.
  - (8) EMILY, born February, 1876, died 17 July, 1877.
  - (9) CATHERINE, the ninth daughter of JOHN and ANNE HIGGS, of Crofton Farm, Orpington, was born 27 May, 1878. She became the wife of CALEB WALTER HIGGS, of Seads Hill House, Orpington, Co. Kent, the eldest son of CALEB HIGGS of Haywards Heath, Co. Sussex (*vide* Chapter VIII), 11 September, 1907, at Orpington Baptist Church, and by him has one son and three daughters :
    1. WALTER JOHN CALEB HIGGS, born 30 April, 1913.
    - (1) ANNIE MARGARET, born 21 October, 1908.
    - (2) CATHERINE JOAN, born 26 July, 1915.
    - (3) MAVIS GILLIAR, born 14 August, 1921. She died 27 November, 1931.
 CATHERINE, wife of CALEB WALTER HIGGS, is a gifted pianist, and holds both the Bronze and Gold Medals of the Guildhall School of Music, London.
  - (10) ETHEL MARIAN, the tenth daughter of JOHN and ANNE HIGGS, was born 19 September, 1880.
  - (11) DORA, the eleventh daughter and youngest child of JOHN and ANNE HIGGS of Crofton Farm, was born 1 October, 1882. She died 18 April, 1883.





**JOHN MAY HIGGS**, the elder and only surviving son of JOHN HIGGS of Crofton Farm, Orpington, Co. Kent, by ANNE MAY his wife, who was born 6 March, 1869, was sent, when about seven years of age, to boarding-school close to Teynham, near Sittingbourne, Kent. He subsequently went to schools at Sevenoaks, Herne Bay and New Cross. At school he was always apparently in scrapes. He ran home from one, and from another he retired by request after an unfortunate affair of a pillow-fight, in which he displayed a greater exuberance of spirits than was appreciated in those days. He



*J. M. Higgs*

JOHN MAY HIGGS, YEOMAN, OF FARNEBOROUGH  
HALL FARM, 1869-1921.

married about 1895 MARY, the only daughter of WILLIAM VINSON, of Orpington, Co. Kent, and thus two of the staunchest Liberal and Nonconformist families of this district became united.

The first year or two of married life JOHN MAY and MARY HIGGS spent at "Clairville", a house at Crofton. Here JOHN MAY HIGGS managed his father's farms close by. Subsequently, whilst still retaining the management of the Crofton farms, he moved to the first farm of his own called Farnboro' Hall, where his widow still lives (1933), and where his second son now farms. This farm JOHN MAY HIGGS rented from SIR WILLIAM HART DYKE, Bart., of Lullingstone Park, but in later years, when the Lullingstone Estate, or





rather the outlying portion of that estate, was sold, JOHN MAY HIGGS purchased the Farnboro' Hall property. Many changes have taken place since then. To-day an arterial road runs through the middle of this estate, and much building has been done on some of the frontages. JOHN MAY HIGGS for some years rented Perry Hall Farm at Orpington, which he took over from his father-in-law, Mr. WILLIAM VINSON. This, however, he relinquished about 1907, when that property was sold for building development. Upon the death of his father JOHN HIGGS in 1905, JOHN MAY HIGGS took over the Crofton Pound and Crofton Place farms. About 1908 he took the lease of Owen's Court Farm at Faversham, the present home of his elder son JOHN VINSON HIGGS. In taking the lease of this farm his idea was to develop this for strawberry growing, in



JOHN VINSON HIGGS, OF OWEN'S COURT, FAVERSHAM.

*John Vinson Higgs*

which he had been so successful upon the Crofton farms, but this did not prove a success here, and was replaced by the growing of hops as the principal crop. However, with the advent of canning strawberries, his son, JOHN VINSON HIGGS, has been enabled to profitably utilize more acreage each year for the original purpose his father had in taking up the lease of the Faversham land. At the time of leasing Owen's Court Farm, JOHN MAY HIGGS placed an old and trusty foreman, W. LEONARD, who had long been with his father-in-law WILLIAM VINSON, in charge, and usually paid a weekly visit. He was with him until his decease, and then continued with JOHN VINSON HIGGS, until his health broke a few years after JOHN MAY HIGGS had passed away.

JOHN MAY HIGGS was a most successful farmer in all garden crops and soft fruits, particularly strawberries, in which he did a very big business, and when he died, 7 March, 1921, in but his fifty-second year, he left estate valued at £61,105.





In church work he was indefatigable, and the main instrument in the erection of the Baptist Church at Green-Street-Green, Kent, to the memory of Mr. WILLIAM VINSON, his father-in-law. When JOHN MAY HIGGS first interested himself in the Nonconformist (Baptist) cause at "The Green" (as Green-Street-Green was locally called), services were held once only on Sundays in a small "Tin Tabernacle", or galvanized iron building. This latter was used as a school-room until a few years back, when its place was taken by a fine block of brick-built Sunday-school buildings which were erected to the memory of JOHN MAY HIGGS, and the work he dearly loved in connection with the young people :

*In his public activities, he, like his father, was a most useful member of the Bromley Union Board of Guardians, and the Bromley Rural District Council. He was also Chairman of the Farnborough Parish Council, a manager of the Farnborough Council School, and was twice Chairman of the Farnborough District Nursing Association, having resigned his second term of office at the annual meeting held a month to the day before his death. He took a very deep interest in the housing question as well as many other public matters, and only a short time before his decease he became associated with the executive of the Kent County Farmers' Union.*

He was ill only two days before he passed away on Monday afternoon, 7 March, 1921. In fact he had been out and about his business on the Saturday previous, visiting a local motor engineering firm at Orpington about some repairs needed in connection with a farm tractor. He contracted a chill which resulted in heart failure. His sudden decease came as a shock to the family and the whole district, wherein his sterling qualities, both as a public man and an employer, were widely known and appreciated. Alderman SIR HENRY LENNARD, J.P., C.C., as Chairman of the Bromley Rural District Council, paid a tribute to the memory of JOHN MAY HIGGS the morning after his decease in the following words :

"I have only heard this morning of the death of our oldest and most esteemed colleague, Mr. JOHN MAY HIGGS, who has represented Farnborough for a considerable number of years. This sad news will be received by everyone with the deepest regret. I worked upon this Council with Mr. HIGGS's father, and after the death of Mr. JOHN HIGGS his son took his place upon this Board. Mr. JOHN MAY HIGGS has been one of the most respected, and most beloved, of our colleagues for seventeen or eighteen years, and has proved himself an absolutely straightforward business man, who in his work has ever been ready to assist every member of this Council to the best of his ability. I am sure that everyone present will desire that a letter of sympathy and condolence shall go from the Council to the widow of Mr. HIGGS and his family, for no one in Farnborough was more highly respected or beloved as an absolutely straightforward Englishman."

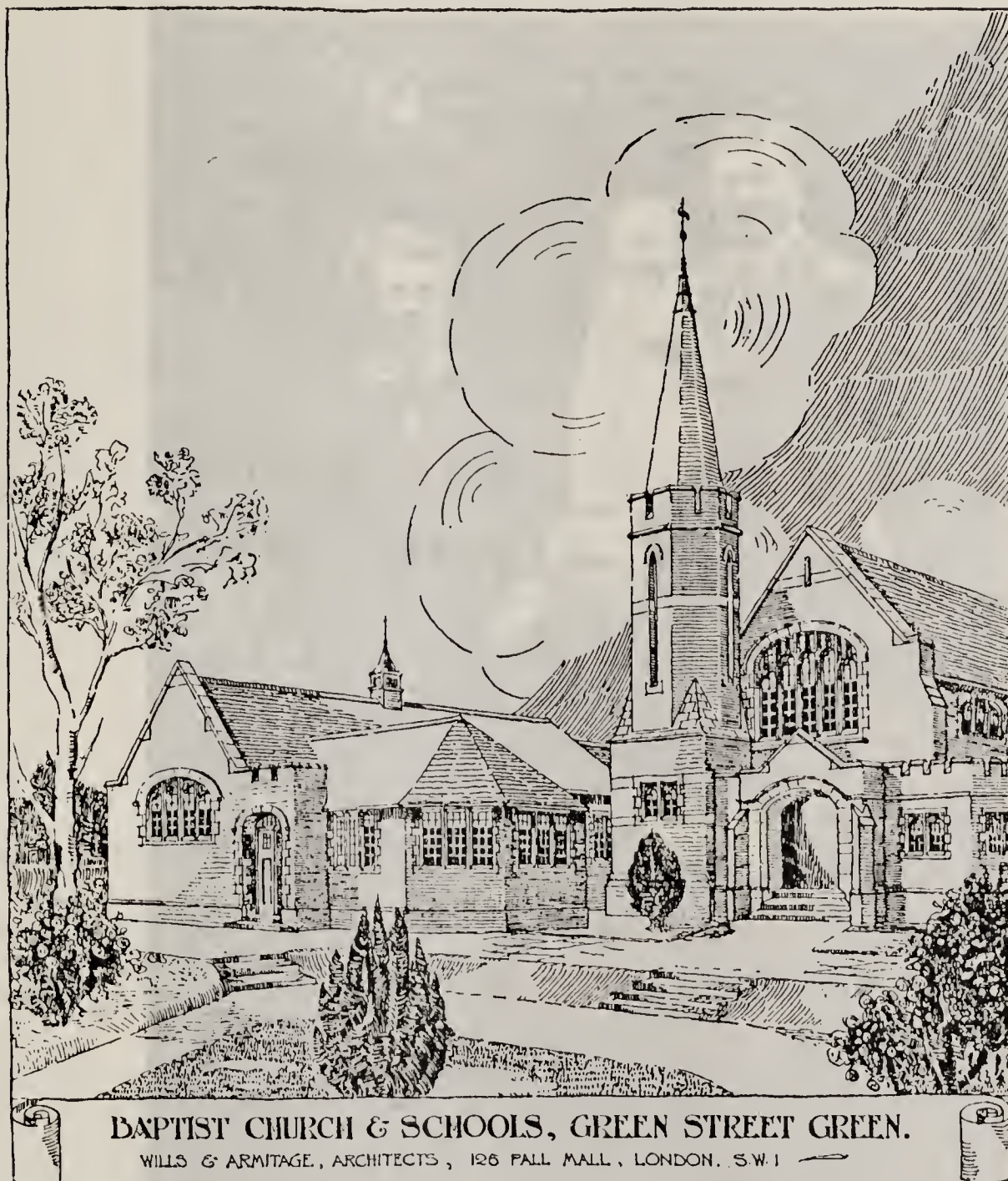
By MARY VINSON, his wife, JOHN MAY HIGGS had two sons and four daughters as follows :

1. JOHN VINSON HIGGS, born 25 April, 1896 (of whom later).
2. CHARLIE HIGGS, born 24 April, 1900, succeeded his father at Farnboro' Hall, and, like his father, has taken a keen interest in the church work at Green-Street-Green. He married 25 April, 1931, JOYCE ALICE WHITE, by whom he has a daughter, MADGE SISSIE, born 2 March, 1932.
- (1) MARY REBECCA, the eldest daughter of JOHN MAY HIGGS and MARY VINSON his wife, was born 18 February, 1899. She married, 2 August, 1923, the Rev. THOMAS DAVID ROBINSON, elder son of Mr. H. VINCENT ROBINSON of Prestonbury, Bromley, in the county of Kent, and by him has two sons and two daughters :
  1. JOHN VINCENT ROBINSON, born 29 December, 1927.
  2. ROY DAVID ROBINSON, born 26 December, 1930.
- (1) GRACE MARY ROBINSON, born 21 July, 1924.
- (2) MARGARET ELLEN ROBINSON, born 18 September, 1925.





- (2) SISSIE ANNIE, the second daughter of JOHN MAY HIGGS and MARY VINSON, was born 11 November, 1904, and died in April, 1909.
- (3) MABEL JOY, the third daughter, was born 30 July, 1909.
- (4) MARGARET EMILY, the youngest child of JOHN MAY HIGGS and MARY VINSON his wife, was born 11 May, 1914.



THE CHURCH ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF WILLIAM VINSON, FATHER-IN-LAW OF JOHN MAY HIGGS, AND ON THE LEFT THE JOHN MAY HIGGS MEMORIAL SCHOOLROOM.

JOHN VINSON HIGGS, the elder son of JOHN MAY HIGGS and MARY VINSON his wife (born 25 April, 1896), succeeded his father at Owen's Court, Faversham, in the county of Kent. He was educated at the City of London School, and upon the outbreak of the World War was one of the first to join the Colours. He enlisted as a private in the 5th Royal West Kent Regiment, and soon became an N.C.O. and a Sergeant in that regiment, which was sent to India. He later saw service in Mesopotamia with the 6th Jat Light Infantry of the Indian Army, in which he held commissioned rank, rising from 2nd Lieutenant to Acting-Captain, being granted honorary rank of Lieutenant upon demobilization at the conclusion of the War. *In Despatches from Lieut.-General Sir W. R. Marshall, dated 7 February, 1919, JOHN VINSON HIGGS was mentioned for*







*"gallant and distinguished services in the field", and upon the termination of the War, he was presented with the Honorary Freedom of the City of London, an honour bestowed upon all old boys of the City of London School who voluntarily joined H.M. Forces during the World War.*



A FOUR-GENERATION GROUP TAKEN AT MAYFIELD, ORPINGTON, IN 1921.

JOHN VINSON HIGGS, with his eldest son, JOHN GIRLING HIGGS. His mother, MARY, daughter of WILLIAM VINSON of Orpington, and widow of JOHN MAY HIGGS, and his maternal grandmother, the widow of WILLIAM VINSON.

Whilst JOHN VINSON HIGGS was away fighting for King and Country, his father, with the wonderful help afforded during those terrible days by the "women of England", carried on the farming operations, and the following extract from a letter sent to his son





by JOHN MAY HIGGS, under date of 6 October, 1918, will, as time goes on, be of peculiar interest as showing the conditions in England whilst the World War waged :

" Farnboro' Hall, Kent ;  
" 6 October, 1918.

" I am writing this with the hope that it may reach you before, or by, Christmas, so will commence by wishing you ' A Happy Christmas ', if a dusty or sandy one. I think it should be a happy one, for the news of the last few weeks gives us every reason to hope that we are beginning to see signs of the end of the war. We are filled with hope that before long these terrible days will be over and that there will be a prospect of your using the other half of your return ticket. Hip, Hip, Hurray ! This is Sunday evening, Mother and May have gone to Chapel and I am staying in to make sure of getting this written ; every day seems so full that it seems impossible to get time to settle down and write a long letter. I know Mother never misses writing, but I am afraid one or two mails have gone to the bottom, and we fear the one with our photos taken at Worthing. I managed to get there from a Saturday till the Thursday they came home, and had an absolutely lazy time, for which I was most thankful and greatly appreciated it. Had two or three bathes in almost warm water and the atmosphere was such that you could come out of it without a shiver. I could have put up with it for a month without getting tired. . . . We are now getting up potatoes, or should be doing so, but cannot get enough women here to do it. With one hundred acres to be got up here and at Crofton we have only about a dozen women, so have applied for twenty or thirty ' Land Army girls ' and am expecting them here to-morrow. . . . Now old boy, good-bye once more (it doesn't seem possible and yet it is over two years since Mother and I said ' Good-bye ' at Crowborough Corner). May our expectations and hopes soon be fulfilled.

" Your affectionate Father,

*J. M. Higgs*

Just over one month later that never-to-be-forgotten Armistice was signed ! What news ! Not only to those at home, but to all on all fronts ! Whether in England, in Mesopotamia, or in France, it seemed almost too good to be true ! The strain had been terrific, but by the united efforts of the whole British Empire, and the wonderful work of the women of England, together with the heroic efforts of the allied nations, the war was won.

Soon after demobilization JOHN VINSON HIGGS took over the Owens Court Farm at Faversham, Kent, and on 11 January, 1921, he married at the Congregational Church at Felixstowe, in the county of Suffolk, DAISY, the eldest daughter of Mr. R. J. GIRLING, an architect and surveyor of that town, and son of Mr. ROBERT GIRLING of Ipswich. There is an old Norfolk family of this name, one branch of which uses " A demi-griffon azure, holding between its paws a fleur-de-lis gules " for their crest, whilst another branch uses " On a ducal coronet or a wolf's head erased argent ". There can be little doubt that the GIRLINGS of Suffolk and those in the adjoining county of Norfolk are one and the same stock.

By DAISY GIRLING, his wife, JOHN VINSON HIGGS has the following family of three sons and one daughter :

1. JOHN GIRLING HIGGS, born 13 December, 1921.
2. CHARLES JAMES HIGGS, born 19 June, 1923.
3. GEORGE RICHARD HIGGS, born 24 June, 1929.
- (1) ELEANOR MAY, born 29 January, 1925, and died in infancy 5 February, 1925.

Thus ends the account of the descendants of JOHN HIGGS of Orpington in the county of Kent and ANNE MAY his wife.





## CHAPTER XIV

## The Australian and Tasmanian Branch of the Higgs Family of Thatcham

JOSHUA HIGGS, who emigrated to Australia, was the eldest son of JOSHUA HIGGS of Davis Street, Berkeley Square, London, W., and of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, in the county of Berks. As shown in Chapter VI, he was born in London 17 April, 1820, and married ANN, the daughter of Mr. WILLIAM WHITE, of Oxford Street, London, W., at Marylebone Parish Church 20 January, 1843, by whom he had a large family of six sons and six daughters. By profession he was an architect and surveyor. For some years he practised in London, Manchester and Altrincham in Cheshire, but in 1852, shortly after the birth of his sixth child, he decided to emigrate to Australia, where the great gold rush, which had started in 1851, was in full swing. He arrived with his wife and family in Victoria, in the autumn of that year, and there followed his profession in the city of Melbourne, supervising many public works under Governor LATROBE in that State. In 1857, at the instance of Capt. DUMARESS, he went to Northern Tasmania, to superintend the building of a residence for that gentleman at Illawarra. The inbred love of farming was strong in his nature, and after that residence was completed JOSHUA HIGGS turned his attention to farming at Glenore and Bentley. Later he was prevailed upon to accept the superintendence of the construction of the bridge at Deloraine, and upon its completion he undertook similar work at Westwood and Hadspen, where a large bridge was erected in each place. He then was engaged by Mr. J. FINCHAM in connection with Government works for several years. In 1880 he accepted the position of Inspector of Roads in the north end of the Island, which position he relinquished two years later, when he settled in Launceston. There he surveyed the suburb of Trevellyan, which soon after quickly developed into a residential place. Among other works he undertook may be mentioned the surveying for the Bangor Slate Quarry Tramway, the Brookstead Tin Race, and the Exton Estate belonging to a Mr. A. HART. For six years JOSHUA HIGGS was a member of the Trevellyan Town Board, and was Chairman of that Board between the years 1894 and 1897. In March of the latter date he retired from active work owing to failing health, being then just upon seventy-seven years of age. A few months only elapsed before he passed away 19 September, 1897, in his seventy-eighth year.

The family of JOSHUA and ANN HIGGS are as follows :

1. **JOSHUA HIGGS**, their eldest son, was born in London, 1 November, 1843. He married twice, first to HENRIETTA, the eldest daughter of ROBERT SYMONS, a farmer in Tasmania, by whom he had no family. He married secondly MARY COSTAIN, and by her had one son :
  1. JOSHUA WILLIAM HIGGS, born 24 April, 1889, who went into the ironmongery business in Melbourne. He married MARY ELSIE McNABB (who was born 8 July, 1889) 23 December, 1912, and by her has the following family :
    1. JOSHUA RONALD, born 25 October, 1913.
    2. KEITH WILLIAM, born 19 July, 1915.
    3. ALEXANDER LYNTON, born 27 December, 1916.
    - (1) ELSIE JEAN, born 27 March, 1921.

JOSHUA HIGGS followed his father's profession in Launceston, where he became a well-known architect and surveyor. He died 9 November, 1903.





2. **EDWARD HIGGS** of Western Creek, Tasmania, ship and boat builder, was the second son of JOSHUA and ANN HIGGS of Launceston, and was born at Pimlico, London, 5 July, 1848. He married MARY, the eldest daughter of NEIL GRAHAM, who emigrated from Scotland, and, dying about 1928, left six sons and four daughters :
1. ERNEST HIGGS, shipbuilder, born at Devonport, Tasmania, in 1874. He married ELLEN GRACE WINSOR of Western Creek, Tasmania, the daughter of a builder and contractor in London, England, who emigrated to Tasmania when she was eight years of age with her parents, and settled at Geelong, Victoria. They have the following family :
    1. EDWARD WILLIAM.
    2. NOEL JOHN.
    - (1) MARJORIE LOIS, died 20 January, 1931.
    - (2) WINIFRED GRACE, married in Geelong, SYDNEY GORDON BLYTH, second son of Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE BLYTH of Burke Road, Camberwell, Melbourne.
    - (3) CONSTANCE ALICE.
    - (4) RUTH, born 1918.
  2. CALEB HIGGS, born at Devonport, Tasmania, 29 July, 1895. He married ALICE LUMB of Sydney and settled at Hornsby, Sydney. They have a family of five daughters :
    - (1) MILLICENT.
    - (2) JOYCE MARY.
    - (3) WINIFRED ALICE.
    - (4) DOROTHY KATHLEEN.
    - (5) ROSE.
  3. STANCIL EDGAR HIGGS, born at Devonport, Tasmania, in 1878 or '79. He married ETHEL BELCHAMBER, and settled at Lebrina in that Island, where he is engaged in farming. They have one son and one daughter :
    1. HUGH GRAHAM.
    - (1) JOAN AUDREY.
  4. EDMUND HIGGS, born at Devonport, Tasmania, 25 June, 1880. He married GLADYS PEARL PALMER of Adelaide, and settled at Murray Bridge, South Australia, where he practises as an engineer. When the Olympic Games were held in London a few years ago, he came over to England as coach to the Murray Bridge Rowing Crew. They have two children :
    1. THOMAS GRAHAM.
    - (1) JEAN.
  5. ELMER JOHN HIGGS, born at Devonport, Tasmania, 29 March, 1888. He married CHARLOTTE SHERRIFF, and lives at his native town. They have two daughters :
    - (1) WYLOA JOYCE.
    - (2) THORA KATHLEEN.
  6. ARTHUR GRAHAM HIGGS, born at Devonport, Tasmania, 11 April, 1903. He married GLADYS LEWIS, and settled at Western Creek, Tasmania, where he is engaged in the lumber business. They have one son and two daughters :
    1. SYDNEY.
    - (1) PHYLLIS.
    - (2) JOAN.
  - (1) MARY, born at Devonport, Tasmania, 24 January, 1877. She married HENRY GRAHAM AGAR of Whitby, Yorkshire, England, who settled in Launceston, where he practises as a designer of railway carriages. They have no family.
  - (2) CLARA FANNY, born at Devonport, Tasmania, in 1883. She married Mr. FRED HEAVISIDE of the Royal Mint at Melbourne, by whom she has two sons and one daughter :
    1. RONALD.
    2. COLIN.
    - (1) MARGARET DOROTHY.
  - (3) ANNIE MARY, born at Devonport, Tasmania. She married JOHN CLYDESDALE, who emigrated from Glasgow, Scotland. They had no family and, she is now a widow.





- (4) MILLICENT KIMPTON, the youngest daughter of EDWARD and MARY HIGGS of Devonport, was also born in that place. She married GEORGE THOMAS SMEDLEY, an engineer, and has two sons :

1. REX STANCIL.
2. EDWARD BEDFORD.

3. **SIDNEY HIGGS** of Launceston, Tasmania, was born at Manchester, England, 19 August, 1850. He married LYDIA KELLEWAY, the third daughter of THOMAS STONE of Chudleigh, Tasmania (who emigrated from Dorset, England), farmer, 29 November, 1881, by whom he has two sons :

1. CALEB JOSHUA HIGGS, born 16 September, 1882.
2. SYDNEY HAMLET HIGGS, born 3 December, 1884. He married WINIFRED PATERSON 9 December, 1917, by whom he has two daughters :
  - (1) AVIS WINIFRED, born 21 September, 1918.
  - (2) MARIE LYDIA, born 17 April, 1922.

This family is now (1933) of Wellington, New Zealand.

4. **WALTER HIGGS**, of Roseberry, Tasmania, was born 6 June, 1852, at Altrincham, in the county of Cheshire, England. He married twice ; first to SUSAN MEDWIN of Stanley Circular Head, Tasmania, by whom he had one son :

1. CARL MEDWIN HIGGS, born at Birnie in 1883. He married and has issue :
  1. GORDON HAMILTON, born 27 March, 1910.
  - (1) GRETA JOY, born 10 June, 1911.

At one time WALTER HIGGS was manager of a gold mine at Coolgardie, Western Australia. After his first wife's decease he married secondly, 20 December, 1899, ALICE ELLEN MEDWIN (who was born 31 January, 1873), by whom he has two sons :

1. WALTER LONSDALE HIGGS, born 5 July, 1902.
2. ROY ERSKINE HIGGS, born 15 March, 1913.

5. **ERNEST CORDEROY HIGGS**, the fifth son of JOSHUA and ANN HIGGS of Launceston, was born 20 July, 1854, at Yarra-Yarra, Victoria. He settled at Melbourne, Australia, and married EMILY LAURA, the third daughter of ALFRED BIGGS, of the Savings Bank at Launceston (who came from Collingwood, Victoria), 4 April, 1883 (she was born 27 November, 1860), and by her has seven sons and five daughters :

1. CLEMENT CORDEROY, born 17 January, 1884. *Ob. infans.*
2. ALFRED HEDLEY HIGGS, born 4 April, 1885. He married 4 January, 1909, DOROTHY G. HARRIS, by whom he has the following family :

1. JACK BYRON, born June, 1911.
2. RICHARD DONALD, born January, 1918.
- (1) JEAN MARJORIE, born April, 1913.
- (2) MONICA JOYCE, born February, 1915.
- (3) SHEILA JOAN, born August, 1921.

3. GIFFORD ERNEST HIGGS, born 28 June, 1886. He married 8 January, 1913, ALICE MAUD PEART, by whom he has a daughter :

- (1) DOROTHY ELLEN, born 4 August, 1915.

4. PRESTON WALTER HIGGS, born 6 May, 1892. He married 29 August, 1922, MARGARET ELLEN, widow of Mr. M. E. DINSEN, and daughter of a Mr. MADSEN, of Denmark, though she was born in Melita, Manitoba, Canada, in 1900. By her he has two sons :

1. REGINALD ERNEST HIGGS, born in Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., 1923.
2. GIFFORD MADSEN HIGGS, born in Los Angeles, California, 1929.

PRESTON WALTER HIGGS left Australia with the troops in 1917, and was demobilized in England and went to Canada. He then went to the United States, where for a number of years he was engaged in business as a building contractor. In 1930 he settled at Pouce Coupé, British Columbia, in the Peace River district.

5. ALVIN STANLEY HIGGS, born 23 June, 1893. He married 23 July, 1919, IDA MARY TURNBULL, and by her has a daughter :

- (1) KATHLEEN FLORENCE.

6. FRED CLEON HIGGS, born 10 June, 1895.

7. CLYDE HAROLD HIGGS, born 5 February, 1903.

- (1) JESSIE ALICE, born 8 November, 1884. She married 29 June, 1910, ALBERT JAGO, storekeeper at Western Creek, Tasmania, by whom she has one son and two daughters :





1. KENNETH ALBERT JAGO, born 6 April, 1918.
- (1) MARJORIE CLARICE (JAGO), born 6 November, 1911.
- (2) WINIFRED FREDA (JAGO), born 12 September, 1916.
- (2) MILLICENT ANNIE, born 27 April, 1889. She married 16 August, 1910, RALPH T. SHERMAN, by whom she has two sons and four daughters :
  1. LINDSAY CARL SHERMAN, born 1912.
  2. NORTON MAYWELL SHERMAN, born 1916.
  - (1) CONSTANCE VERNER (SHERMAN), born 1911.
  - (2) NANCY CLAIR (SHERMAN), born 1914.
  - (3) LEILA BERNICE (SHERMAN), born 1916.
  - (4) ROSALIE (SHERMAN), born 1922.
- (3) FLORENCE MAY, born 14 October, 1890. She married HARRY JAGO 27 April, 1918, by whom she has one son and one daughter :
  1. GEOFFREY ERNEST JAGO, born 1919.
  - (1) LEITHA MAY (JAGO), born 1920.
- (4) RUTH EVELYN, the fourth daughter of ERNEST CORDEROY HIGGS, was born 24 July, 1897, at Caveside. She married NATHANIEL CUBIT, 24 March, 1920, by whom she has three children, one son and two daughters :
  1. RODERICK LYALL CUBIT, born 17 July, 1925.
  - (1) LEAH EVELYN (CUBIT), born 29 December, 1923.
  - (2) MARIE FAY (CUBIT), born 21 July, 1929.

NATHANIEL CUBIT was born at Deloraine, Tasmania, 1 October, 1892.
- (5) LEILA EMILY BURVILLE, the youngest daughter of ERNEST CORDEROY HIGGS, was born 28 August, 1899.

**6. JOSEPH HUBERT HIGGS** of Bentleigh, Trevellyan, Launceston, was the sixth son of JOSHUA and ANN HIGGS of Launceston, Tasmania. He married twice, first to HENRIETTA HILLARIA, the eldest daughter of PHILLIP GILBERT of Deloraine (farmer), and by her had one son :

1. NORMAN GILBERT HIGGS, who was born at Launceston 1 July, 1882. He married 13 April, 1914, MILLICENT, daughter of JAMES MCKAY, of Melbourne, Victoria, by whom he has three sons and one daughter :
  1. NORMAN JAMES HIGGS, born 31 January, 1915.
  2. JAMES MCKAY HIGGS, born 5 February, 1917.
  3. JOHN DOUGLAS HIGGS, born 31 December, 1930.
  - (1) MARGARET JOAN, born 30 September, 1923.

NORMAN GILBERT HIGGS went into the Ministry, and became the Rev. NORMAN GILBERT HIGGS of Birnie.

Upon the death of HENRIETTA HILLARIA HIGGS on 23 October, 1885, JOSEPH HUBERT HIGGS married a second time 27 December, 1886, to EMMA LOUISA, daughter of Mr. JOHN W. WALKLATE, of Tasmania, an accountant, and by her has the following family :

1. ROY HUBERT HIGGS, born 27 February, 1891, and died 24 October, 1893.
2. HUGH CORDEROY HIGGS, born 24 October, 1897. During the World War he served in H.M. Australian Navy with the British Fleet in the North Sea. Having passed through those four years of terror unscathed he suddenly succumbed to enteric at Devonport (whilst waiting for his ship to leave for Australia) 4 April, 1919.

During leave from his ship he had visited many of his kinsfolk in London, in whom he took much interest, and whose names were familiar to him from a pedigree of the family possessed in his home. He visited Gwydyr House, Brixton, and ROBERT PERCIVAL HIGGS of Surbiton took him over London. HUGH CORDEROY HIGGS was a fine, handsome young man of splendid character, and his sudden death, so near to his return home, after over four years of service for the Empire, was a tremendous blow to his family, as well as a deep sorrow to his kinsfolk in the Old Land to whom he had endeared himself.





- (1) DORIS ALICE, born 24 November, 1887. She married HENRY MCAULEY (son of ARTHUR) REID, sheep farmer of Linga Longa, Frankford, Tasmania, 4 January, 1908, and by him has four sons and one daughter :
1. ARTHUR HENRY REID, born 23 December, 1908.
  2. MAXWELL HUBERT REID, born 26 April, 1911.
  3. FREDERICK WALDEN REID, born 11 March, 1913.
  4. DESMOND MCAULEY REID, born 30 September, 1917.
- (1) HEATHER MAVIS REID, born 28 October, 1915.



HUGH CORDEROY HIGGS (1897-1919).

Son of JOSEPH HUBERT HIGGS, by EMMA LOUISA, daughter of JOHN W. WALKLATE, of Tasmania, his second wife. He served with H.M. Australian Navy in the North Sea during the World War, and died of enteric fever at Devonport, England, where he was buried in the Cemetery of that place.

- (2) ROTHIA ERICA, born 16 May, 1889. She married ALBERT GRENVILLE, son of JAMES D. DOYLE of Melbourne, 29 October, 1913, by whom she has a son and a daughter :
1. DAVID GRENVILLE DOYLE, born 4 April, 1917.
- (1) ROTHIA DOREEN (DOYLE), born 17 September, 1914.
- (3) ORA ANNIE, born 6 May, 1893. She married GEORGE WILLIAM ROBERT, son of ROBERT STONE of Blanyac, France, 17 November, 1915, and has two sons :
1. DAVID GEORGE STONE, born 22 October, 1916.
  2. GEORGE ROBERT STONE, born 22 November, 1917.
- (4) RITA MAVIS, born 23 February, 1896.
- (5) EDITHA LOIS, born 12 January, 1900, married Rev. G. POWLES LASSAM of the Methodist Mission, East Cape, Papua.





(1) FANNY was the eldest daughter of JOSHUA and ANN HIGGS of Launceston, Tasmania. She was born 15 June, 1845, at Bayswater, London, England.

(2) MARY, the second daughter, was born 2 December, 1846, at Bayswater, London, England. She married 3 June, 1870, ALEXANDER CAMERON of South Burnie, Tasmania (who was born 3 February, 1845), and by him she had four sons and five daughters :

1. ALEXANDER JOSHUA CAMERON, born 6 July, 1871, married SARAH KAINÉ (born 8 July, 1869) 29 November, 1899, and by her had the following family :

1. ALEXANDER CYRIL JAMES CAMERON, born 5 April, 1900.
2. JOSHUA ROY DOUGLAS CALVIN CAMERON, born 13 August, 1905.
3. DONALD MILTON CAMERON, born 16 September, 1910.

(1) JEANE ANNIE (CAMERON), born 2 September, 1903.

(2) AGNES MARY ISOBEL (CAMERON), born 16 August, 1905.

2. EWART JOHN GLADSTONE CAMERON, born 4 December, 1877.

3. HENRY EDWARD CAMERON, born 19 February, 1882.

4. VERNON THEODORE WILLIAM CAMERON, born 14 October, 1886. He married ALICE MAUD ROWE of Smithton, Tasmania, but has no family.

The five daughters of ALEXANDER CAMERON and MARY HIGGS, his wife, are :

(1) MARY ISOBEL (CAMERON), born 29 March, 1873. She married JAMES HOLYMAN 31 December, 1895, by whom she has four sons and two daughters :

1. ROBIN JOSHUA HOLYMAN, born 17 August, 1901.
2. WILLIAM BARTON HOLYMAN, born 19 March, 1904.
3. KEITH CAMERON HOLYMAN, born 7 September, 1911.
4. ROSS HOLYMAN HOLYMAN, born 9 February, 1915.

(1) FAITH JEAN (HOLYMAN), born 12 October, 1896. She married KEITH TYSON of Launceston, by whom she has three sons :

1. CAMERON MONDS TYSON, born 9 April, 1921.
2. ROBIN MONDS TYSON, born 13 October, 1922.
3. GREGOR MONDS TYSON, born 8 April, 1924.

(2) MONA ALEXANDRIA (HOLYMAN), born 10 March, 1899.

(2) RACHEL BEATRICE (CAMERON), born 11 June, 1875. Unmarried in 1925.

(3) EDITH ANN RUTH (CAMERON), born 8 January, 1880. Unmarried in 1925.

(4) MABEL LETITIA (CAMERON), born 16 July, 1884. Unmarried in 1925. During the World War she served as a nurse with the Australian Expeditionary Force.

(5) VIDA LYDIA DOROTHY (CAMERON), born 19 July, 1892, married WILLIAM PASSMORE JEFFREY of New Zealand, and had by him two daughters :

(1) JOAN DOROTHY PASSMORE (JEFFREY), born 14 December, 1917.

(2) AUDREY PASSMORE (JEFFREY), born 24 September, 1922.

(3) MARIA ANNE, the third daughter of JOSHUA and ANN HIGGS of Launceston, was born 5 May, 1858. She married 12 April, 1878, FRANCIS FREDERICK OLDAKER of Inverness, Scotland (he was born 6 July, 1844, and settled in Australia), by whom she has a family of one son and three daughters :

1. CHARLES EDMUND WILLS OLDAKER, born 21 October, 1879. He married ALICE MABEL WADE in 1906, and by her has a son :

1. MAXWELL CHARLES OLDAKER, born 1907.

(1) ELLA JANE MAY (OLDAKER), born 20 May, 1881. She married in 1915 WALTER THOMAS MURRAY of Melbourne, and has two sons :

1. EDMUND WALLACE MURRAY, born 1916.
2. DOUGLAS GALBRAITH MURRAY, born 1918.

(2) EMMA MARIA (OLDAKER), born 20 November, 1883. She married in 1903 RICHARD E. HOLMES, a schoolmaster of Devonport, Tasmania, by whom she has three sons and four daughters :

1. FRANCIS DONALDSON HOLMES, born 1906.
2. TERRANCE BENTLEY HOLMES, born 1908.
3. RICHARD OLDAKER HOLMES, born 1923.
- (1) CONSTANCE OLDAKER (HOLMES), born 1904.
- (2) MARGUERITE FOSTER (HOLMES), born 1910.
- (3) JOSEPHINE BENTLEY (HOLMES), born 1915.
- (4) AVIS OLDAKER (HOLMES), born 1921.

(3) MARY MARIA (OLDAKER), born 20 November, 1885.





- (4) KATE, the fourth daughter of JOSHUA and ANN HIGGS of Launceston, Tasmania, was born 31 March, 1861. She married twice, first 12 December, 1889, to ALFRED W. SYMMONS, of Tasmania, by whom she had one daughter :

(1) LETA CLARICE (SYMMONS), born 23 November, 1890.

This daughter married 16 June, 1918, FREDERICK JACOBS, by whom she has a son :

6. ROGER FREDERICK JACOBS, born 8 April, 1920.

ALFRED W. SYMMONS died 12 March, 1893, and was buried at Deloraine. KATE SYMMONS, his widow, married again 10 March, 1900, THOMAS QUINLAN (he died 8 June, 1915). By her second husband she had one son and one daughter :

1. COLIN KENNETH QUINLAN, born 26 November, 1902.

(1) KATHLEEN RITA (QUINLAN), born 31 July, 1904.

- (5) EDITH ALICE was the fifth daughter of JOSHUA and ANN HIGGS of Launceston, Tasmania. She was born 11 October, 1863, at Deloraine, Tasmania. (Unmarried in 1925.)

- (6) RUTH CORDEROY, their youngest daughter, was born, 7 July, 1866, at Deloraine, Tasmania. She took up nursing as a profession.

In 1933 living at "Amwood," 10, Trevallyn Road, Launceston, Tasmania.

Such is the account of the descendants of JOSHUA and ANN HIGGS who settled in the Commonwealth of Australia in 1852.





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## PART II

BEING A

## RECORD

OF VARIOUS BRANCHES OF THE

HIGGS FAMILY, arranged by  
COUNTIES and COUNTRIES

With Transcripts of HIGGS ENTRIES in many Parish Registers ;  
LISTS of HIGGS WILLS and ADMINISTRATIONS in  
various Courts ; CALENDARS of SUITS in CHANCERY,  
etc. ; ABSTRACTS of many such Suits, Wills, etc.

ALSO SOME ACCOUNT OF VARIOUS FAMILIES  
ALLIED BY MARRIAGE





## PART II

## CHAPTER XV

## The Higgs Family of Berkshire and Bucks

VARIOUS NOTES RELATING TO FAMILIES OF HIGGS IN THE DIFFERENT  
COUNTIES OF ENGLAND:

TOGETHER WITH NOTES UPON FAMILIES WHO HAVE INTERMARRIED WITH THEM.

## BERKSHIRE.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF ALDERMASTON.

A branch of the HIGGS family of Whitchurch, Oxon, settled in this place towards the latter end of the seventeenth century, when JAMES HIGGS, the eldest son of JAMES HIGGS of Whitchurch, took up his abode in this Berkshire village, in all probability after contesting his claim to the Manor of Basildon with his brother WILLIAM HIGGS (cordwainer of Whitchurch, Oxon—*vide* Chancery Suit, HIGGS *v.* HIGGS, and others, 3 December 1698 (Bridges Division 134/23). The will of this JAMES HIGGS, dated 1718, and proved that year in the Archdeaconry Court of Berks, shows that he left three sons, EDWARD, JAMES and WILLIAM, and three daughters, SUSAN, MARY and ELIZABETH. JAMES HIGGS was buried at Aldermaston 7 June, 1717, and his wife ELIZABETH was buried there four years earlier, 29 June, 1713.

The Aldermaston Registers have not been searched for the descendants of this family, but in the parish of Stratfieldsage, Co. Berks, the banns of marriage were published 2, 9 and 16 August; 1778, between a JAMES HIGGS of Aldermaston and one MARY WESTON of Stratfieldsage. This JAMES HIGGS was in all probability a grandson of JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF ASHAMPSTEAD.

According to the will of JOHN HIGE (or HIGGS), proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Berks in 1577 (G. f. 98), this JOHN HIGGS was living at Giles Court, in this parish, in the sixteenth century. His wife JONE (or JOAN) was left his sole executrix. He was a yeoman\* and his son THOMAS succeeded him. JOHN HIGGS of Giles Court had two brothers, THOMAS and WILLIAM HIGGES. His brother THOMAS died in 1556 (will proved 'Arch. Berks,' D., fo. 119) and left, by his wife ALICE, two sons: WILLIAM, who settled at Bucklebury, Berks, adjoining Thatcham (from whose will proved in 1608—'Arch. Berks,' K., fo. 483)—we find mention made by him of his cousins, WILLIAM HIGGS and ANN HIGGS, children of JOHN HIGGS of Giles Court), and CHRISTOPHER, whose son, WILLIAM HIGGS, was a godson of his uncle WILLIAM HIGGS of Bucklebury, who apparently left no issue. THOMAS and ALICE HIGGS also had a daughter AVIS, and a daughter, JOAN, who became

\* *Vide* Conclusion for explanation of the difference between a yeoman and a husbandman.





the wife of one named COOK. In WILLIAM HIGGS of Bucklebury's will mention is made of ELIZABETH, MARJERY and ELLEN GODDARD, children of JOHN GODDARD of Bucklebury, whilst RICHARD GODDARD of Thatcham acted as overseer of his will. In this connection it is of interest to note that, in Chapter VI, a marriage is recorded between the families of HIGGS and GODDARD of this locality in the nineteenth century, when ESTHER, the seventh daughter of JOSHUA HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, and of Davis Street, Berkeley Square, London, W., married JOHN, son of SIMON GODDARD of Cold Ash, who settled there from Boxford, in the county of Berks.

#### THE GODDARD FAMILY.

The GODDARDS of Berkshire and Wiltshire were one and the same stock, and date back in these two counties to an early period. The GODDARDS of Bucklebury and Thatcham, and likewise of Boxford, at no great distance, were all closely related.

In 1549 JOHN GODDARD held land at Crookham, in the parish of Thatcham. In 1586 we find the wife of one RICHARD GODDARD of Crookham Manor buried at Thatcham. The name figures frequently among the churchwardens of Thatcham :

1573.	THOMAS GODDARD was Churchwarden.	
1577.	THOMAS GODDARD	"
1579.	ROGER GODDARD	"
1581/2.	HENRY GODDARD	"
1593.	JOHN GODDARD	"
1597.	RICHARD GODDARD	"
1608.	RICHARD GODDARD	"
1611.	THOMAS GODDARD	"
1617.	THOMAS GODDARD	"
1618.	RICHARD GODDARD, Gent.	"
1622/3.	RICHARD GODDARD	"
1630.	GEORGE GODDARD	"
1718.	GEORGE GODDARD	"
1755.	GEORGE GODDARD	"
1772/3.	GEORGE GODDARD	"
1827-30.	EDWARD GODDARD	"

On 31 March, 1600, at a Court held in Thatcham, it is recorded that " A day is fixed for ROGER GODDARD to remove from his house his undertenant, unless he gives good security that the Parish shall be exonerated "—which apparently he did, as we find no further record of the matter.

In 1605 (2 James I), in a Parish Deed dated 7 January, JOHN GODDARD of Greenham, in the parish of Thatcham, is mentioned as " Among the eleven most substantial men of the Parish ".

In 1680 THOMAS GODDARD of Crookham made a bequest to the parish, by his will proved in 1681 (P.C.C.), consisting of an annuity of One Pound issuing out of the messuages and lands called " Great and Little Jacknells ". His will shows that he was related to the GODDARDS of Brimpton, Co. Berks.

In a Parish Deed, dated 1 January, 1733, GEORGE GODDARD was a party between the Churchwardens, and Overseers of the Poor, and ROBERT CANNY of Cold Ash. When SIMON GODDARD of Boxford settled at Cold Ash he left a son, JOHN CHARLES GODDARD, who was born 10 September, 1834, who by his wife ESTHER, the daughter of JOSHUA HIGGS by his wife MARY ANN, daughter of GEORGE CORDEROY of Lambeth, London, has one daughter, ESTHER GODDARD, who was born at Bardfield, in the county of Essex.

The arms borne by the GODDARDS of Berkshire are : " Azure, 5 fusils in fess, gules ; between 3 eagles' heads, couped Or ". The two main families are the GODDARDS





of Clyffe Manor, in Wiltshire, descended from JOHN GODDARD of Poulton and Upham, living 1386-1434, and the GODDARDS of Swindon, descended from the second son of JOHN GODDARD of Poulton and Upham.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BASILDON, CO. BERKS.

Unquestionably a very close relationship existed between the families of HIGGS in this place and those of South Stoke, in Oxfordshire, and of Thatcham in Berkshire, and other places in both counties. The Church registers of Basildon, commencing in 1540, contain a vast number of entries of baptisms, marriages and burials of HIGGSES, the earliest marriage entry being that of one JOHN HIGGS in 1552. South Stoke lies just across the river from Basildon, above Goring, and it was in 1558 that NICHOLAS HIGGS, *who had settled there from Weobley in Herefordshire*, a descendant of an old family of HIGGSES, in the county of Gloucester, married MARY, the daughter and co-heir of GRIFFIN BARTON, Esqre., of South Stoke. He had come from Weobley in company with his uncle WALTER (who probably had sons), and in all probability the HIGGS family of Basildon are descendants from WALTER HIGGS and his family. NICHOLAS HIGGS of South Stoke had a large family of sons and daughters—"alike rich and numerous" by the authority of the mural tablet to his grandson, the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, in St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke—and some of these sons may have settled in the village of Basildon across the river. There were families of HIGGSES in Basildon and in South Stoke *prior to this date*, either descendants of the old Gloucestershire family, near Cheltenham, or of a branch which had settled in Berkshire from the Cotswold Hills at an early date. One of the earliest HIGGSES of Basildon was one JOHN HIGGS, living at "Hook End", in this parish, in the early part of the sixteenth century. He had a number of sons, and also a brother WILLIAM. JOHN, whose will was proved in 1566 ('Arch. Berks', F, fo. 5), left a son NICHOLAS, a son RICHARD, and three sons of the name of JOHN, "JOHN, MIDDLE-JOHN, and LITTLE-JOHN". His brother WILLIAM likewise left a son NICHOLAS. The estate of a JOHN HIGGES of Basildon was administered by his son ROGER HIGGES in April, 1582 (P.C.C.).

As evidence of there being HIGGS families in Basildon prior to the marriage of JOHN HIGGS in 1552, we find one "Nic." or "Ric." HIGGS witnessing the will of JOHN BUCKERIDGE of Basildon in 1525 (will of JOHN BUCKERIDGE, proved 'Arch. Berks', Reg. A, fo. 312). It is more than likely that this JOHN BUCKERIDGE married one ELIZABETH HIGGES.

The tabulation given in Chapter III is of interest as *showing a connection* between the HIGGS family of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester, of South Stoke, Co. Oxford, and of Basildon, Co. Berks, and their relationship with the families of BUCKERIDGE and PLEYDELL.

There is ample evidence in many wills of the HIGGS family of Basildon to show that they were related to families of HIGGS in other Berkshire and Oxfordshire villages. In 1633 WALTER HIGGS of Basildon mentions in his will (original will, 'Arch. Berks') THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGS, of Maidenhead, in the parish of Pangbourne, Berks, whilst in other wills definite relationship is established between the families in Basildon and those in Ashampstead, Bradfield, Westridge, Streatley, Blewberry, Bucklebury, etc.

*The following Marriage Settlement in connection with the HIGGS family of Basildon is of interest :*

"Indenture made 9 July 1687 between WILLIAM HIGGS of Basildon, Co. Berks, Cooper ; ROBERT HORNE of North Street in Tilehurst, Co. Berks, yeoman ; and JOHN WEBB of Reading, butcher.

"In consideration of his intended marriage with MARY HORNE, daughter of the said ROBERT HORNE, WILLIAM HIGGS grants unto HORNE, and WEBB, lands in Basildon





(bought by his uncle and father, EDWARD HIGGS and JOHN HIGGS, of RICHARD WHITE of Speen, Co. Berks, yeoman, and conveyed to him by the Will of JOHN HIGGS) to the use of himself and MARY HORNE, and their issue. Signatures of WILLIAM HIGGS, ROBERT HORNE and JOHN WEBB. Witnesses: FRANCES DALBY and EDWARD DALBY".

From this Marriage Settlement, and the will of WILLIAM HIGGS of Basildon (proved Consistory Court of Sarum 1717) and that of MARY, his wife, the following tabulation is deduced:

EDWARD HIGGS <i>From the parish registers it would appear that he married and left quite a family of sons and dau<sup>s</sup></i>	JOHN HIGGS = ..... of BASILDON died before 9 JULY 1687					
	WILLIAM HIGGS = of BELL HARROLD HOUSE BASILDON (Cooper) Will pr. 1717 (bur 8 Apr.) <i>Consistory Court of Sarum He owned land in BASILDON BRADFIELD and TILEHURST</i>	MARY dau. of ROBERT HORNE. of TILEHURST Yeoman living 9 JULY 1687. mar. at BASILDON 1687 (14 JULY) her Will was dated 25 JULY 1720 <i>(pr. Arch. Berks. Bk. 21. fo. 166 at PANBOURNE 7 JAN 1722/3).</i>				
ELIZABETH = <i>Eldest dau. bapt. 24 JULY 1688 mar. .... 1715 to whom her mother left her best gown</i>	THOMAS SMART <i>mentioned in his grandmother Higgs's Will</i>	MARY <i>mentioned in her aunt ANNE Higgs's Will pr. at Oxford 1722</i>	MARTHA bapt. 1 JAN 1690 at BASILDON bur. 9 Oct. 1703	MARTHA bapt. 27 SEPT. 1695 at BASILDON bur. 15 MAY 1704	JOAN = bapt. at BASILDON 7 FEB. 1698	GEORGE ANNE BENNETT youngest daughter bapt. 22 JULY 1701 <i>Sister Will dated 12 Dec 1722 pr. at Oxford by THOMAS SMART Witnesses JANE STONE JOHN COWDREY THOS BROOKER</i>

(Note.—JOHN HORNE, yeoman, of Tilehurst, was a brother of MARY, the wife of WILLIAM HIGGS of Basildon. Apparently WILLIAM HIGGS had no male issue.)

Many other wills of the HIGGS family of Basildon have been examined in the preparation of this work, and there is enough matter to compile a separate history of this branch. Enough, however, has been given to show the relationship of the Basildon HIGGS family with those in many other villages of Berkshire and Oxfordshire. There were so many families related of the name in Basildon that to construct a complete pedigree of the Basildon HIGGSSES from the early part of the sixteenth century would be no easy task, and in itself make quite a volume.

#### BASILDON PARISH REGISTERS.

Written at the beginning:

"The fences on the South Side of the Church of Bastledon are to be made and maintained by theis livinge, and such as dwell in them at all times.  
 "The first pane . . . (illegible).  
 "The ninth Jo: ASTELL's house and THO. HIGGS for Broadgate.  
 "The tenth . . . HIGGS of the vtrees for his free land.  
 "The XVth ROGER HIGE for his free land.

*In later hand.*  
 WILLIAM  
 HIGGS.  
 SIMIER  
 BERNARD.

"The second of November 1654, I begund keepinge the Register for the Parish of Bastedon.

(Signed) THO: SINGLETON, Vicar."

Next follow four burials for the year 1641.

1641/2 23 Jan. FRANCIS HIGGES.

The register goes on from 1538, but there were no weddings till 1540.





## Weddings, 1540-1850.

1552. 25 Oct. JOHN HIGGS and JOANE NASHES.  
 There are no entries between 1552 and 1559.
1559. 8 Nov. JOHN HIGGS and ALLES (SALTER (?)).
1560. 21 Nov. THOMAS CAWSDALL and JOANE HIGGS.
1561. 20 Oct. HENRI CRUCHFIELD and EMY HIGGS.  
 (Note.—A BARTON CRUCHFIELD, son of BARTON CRUCHFIELD and MARGARET, daughter of HENRY HARVEY, is mentioned in the Will of GRIFFITH HIGGS, D.D., of South Stoke, Oxon, 1659.—W. M. H.)
1561. 27 Nov. JAMES FOARD and JOANES HIGGS.
1562. 5 Oct. JOHN HIGGS and MARIE LEWIS.
1564. 27 Nov. JOHN HIGGS and AGNIS BOAME.
1565. }  
 1567. } No entries of weddings in these years.  
 1570. }  
 1572. }
1574. 5 Aug. THOMAS HIGGS and ELIZABETH HANKS (HAWKS?).
1575. }  
 1576. } No entries of weddings in these years.  
 1580. }
1586. 11 July JOHN HIGGS and MARIE AUSTELL.
1589. 9 Sept. JOHN HIGGS and JOANE CARTER.
1589. 29 Sept. JOHN WHETT and JOANE HIGGS.
1591. 7 Feb. THOMAS DEATH and JOANE HIGGS.
1592. 24 April. THOMAS ALLIN and JOANE HIGGS (daughter of JOHN *alias* JENKIN HIGGS.—W. M. H.).
1597. 6 Feb. THOMAS ROSE and AGNIS HIGGS.
1601. 7 Sept. WILLIAM HIGGS and SISLEY WICKINS.
1602. 13 Oct. THOMAS HIGGS and AGNIS AUSTELL.
1603. 20 June EDWARD HIGGS and KATHEREN HIGGS.
1604. 7 Oct. WILLIAM HIGGS and AGNIS HOLMES.
1604. 28 Nov. JOHN HIGGS and ALICE ROSE.
1608. 2 Nov. ROGER HIGGS and KATHERINE WIDMER.
1609. 20 Feb. ROBERT MIDWINTER and MARGERY HIGGS.
1615. 13 Nov. WALTER HIGGS and ALICE LOVER.
1616. None at all that year.
1617. 28 July. THOMAS HIGGS and ELIZABETH WHILLER.
1633. 25 Nov. ALEXANDER BROWNE and MARY HIGGS.
1634. 28 July. WILLIAM HIGGS and JOANE PICKTON.
1634. 20 Oct. JOHN CLARKE and ALICE HIGGS (widow).
1636. 21 July. JOHN FISHER and ANN HIGGS.  
 None until 1662.
1662. 9 Oct. THOMAS PARKER and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
- 1663 and 1664. No weddings.
1668. 21 May. FRANCIS HIGGS and JANE MORECOCK.
1671. 27 Nov. JOSEPH SMITH and OLIVE HIGGS.
1672. 20 May. JAMES BLACKMAN and ANNIS HIGGS.
1679. 4 Oct. HENRY HIGGS and ANNE KESSELL.
1683. 13 July. ISAACK HERNE and MARY HIGGS.
1684. 30 Nov. HENRY HIGGS and ANNE GUTTERIDGE.
1687. 14 July. WILLIAM HIGGS and MARY HORNE.
1689. 3 Oct. LEONARD HIGGS and MARY COMIN.
1696. 16 May. FRANCIS HIGGS and MARY EDNY.
1697. 7 April. ROBERT CARRUTHERS and JOANE HIGGS.
1700. 17 Nov. THOMAS KNOTT and MARY HIGGS.
1703. 29 Dec. HENRY SIMMONDS and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1705. 18 June. EDWARD HIGGS and CATHERINE BUTTON.
1709. 16 Oct. JOHN HIGGS and RACHEL PIGGET.
1710. 29 July. HENRY HIGGS and SARAH LECKE (widow).





1711.	30 May.	WILLIAM CRIPS of Ashampstead and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1721.	24 July.	JOHN JONES and MARTHA HIGGS.
1721.	24 Dec.	GEORGE BENNETT and JOANE HIGGS.
1724.	14 Jan.	GEORGE NORTH and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1735.	26 Sept.	JOHN WEST and AMY HIGGS, both of Basildon.
1746.	13 April.	EDWARD HIGGS and SARAH QUELCH, both of Basildon.
1749.	30 Dec.	THOMAS HIGGS of Basildon and ELIZABETH COTTERELL of Goring.
1754.	17 Oct.	JOHN HAMLIN and SARAH HIGGS, both of Basildon.
1760.	11 Dec.	ROBERT BARNARD, widower, and MARTHA HIGGS, widow, both of Basildon.
1770.	7 Jan.	NATHANIEL CRISWELL and ELIZABETH HIGGS, both of Basildon, by licence.
1773.	28 Nov.	ROBERT GOFF and ELIZABETH HIGGS, both of Basildon, by banns.
1778.	25 Mar.	JOHN BRADFORD of Midgham, Clerk, and MARY HIGGS of Basildon, by licence. ( <i>Note.</i> —This was MARY, daughter of ADAM HIGGS of Cold Ash in the Parish of Thatcham by MARY LAWRENCE, his wife. Apparently from this entry she was residing in Basildon at the time of her marriage, and possibly was brought up in Basildon by relatives when her father became a widower in September, 1766, left with six young children.—W. M. H.)
1780.	16 Nov.	JOHN HANSOM and MARY HIGGS, both of Basildon, by licence.
1783.	1 Feb.	NATHANIEL HIGGS, bachelor, and MARY PENN, both of Basildon, by licence.
1785.	9 Jan.	GEORGE EVANS and JANE HIGGS, both of Basildon, by banns.
1785.	24 April.	GEORGE WISE and SARAH HIGGS, both of Basildon, by banns.
1789.	24 Dec.	EDWARD HANWOOD and MARY HIGGS, both of Basildon, by banns.
1793.	21 Oct.	THOMAS ANGEL and PATIENCE HIGGS, by banns. ( <i>Note.</i> —Patience was another daughter of ADAM HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, by MARY LAWRENCE, his wife. It is strange that both these sisters, MARY and PATIENCE, should have been married away from Thatcham. Their grandfather, JAMES HIGGS, was of Thatcham.—W. M. H.)
1798.	2 Oct.	JAMES ADEY and ELIZABETH HIGGS, both of Basildon, by banns.
1805.	28 Jan.	JOSEPH HENWOOD, bachelor, and HANNAH HIGGS, both of Basildon, by banns.
1805.	22 Mar.	JOHN SMITH of Burghfield, bachelor, and MARY HIGGS of Basildon, by licence.
1808.	25 July.	DAVID ALBURY and SARAH HIGGS, both of Basildon, by banns.
1808.	31 Oct.	JOHN FREWMAN, bachelor, and CHARLOTTE HIGGS, spinster, both of Basildon, by banns.
1815.	23 Oct.	THOMAS DAVENPORT, widower, and SARAH HIGGS, spinster, both of Basildon, by banns.
1817.	5 July.	WILLIAM BARFIELD, bachelor, and ELIZABETH HIGGS, spinster, both of Basildon, by banns.
1821.	1 Nov.	THOMAS HIGGS, bachelor, and MARY SMITH, spinster, both of Basildon, by banns.
1842.	24 July.	JOHN FULLER, of full age, bachelor, laborer, son of JAMES FULLER, labourer, and MARY HIGGS, a minor spinster, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS, labourer, both of Basildon, by banns.
1845.	18 May.	WILLIAM HIGGS, of full age (widower), labourer, son of JOHN HIGGS, labourer, and ALICE HENWOOD, of full age, widow, daughter of JOB NIBBS, labourer, both of Basildon, by banns.

*Christenings, 1538-1850 :*

1538.	12 Nov.	JOHN HIGGS.
1539.	17 May.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1539.	24 Jan.	EMIN HIGGS.





1541.	31 Mar.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1544.	15 May.	KATHERIN HIGGS.
1547.	4 Nov.	ROGER HIGGS.
1552.	8 Oct.	JOHN HIGGS.
1555.	20 June.	JOHN HIGG SON.
1559.	17 Feb.	RALFE HIGGS.
1560.	26 May.	JOHN HIGGS.
1560.	24 Nov.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1560.	1 Feb.	AGNIS HIGGSON.
1561.	28 Sept.	GEORGE HIGGS.
1562.	2 Dec.	HENRIE HIGGS.
1562.	7 Jan.	FRANCIS HIGGS.
1564.	29 Dec.	STEPHEN HIGGS.
1564.	8 Feb.	ROGER HIGGS.
1564.	20 Feb.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1566.	14 Jan.	GREGORIE HIGGS.
1567.	25 Mar.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1567.	20 July.	JOHN HIGGS.
1567.	9 Nov.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1568.	8 Aug.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1569.	2 Oct.	GEORGE HIGGS.
1569.	3 Mar.	JOANE HIGGS.
1570.	19 Jan.	JOHN HIGGS.
1571.	10 Feb.	JOANE HIGGS.
1574.	18 April.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1575.	20 April.	JOANE and AGNIS HIGGS.
1575.	22 May.	HENRIE HIGGS.
1575.	28 Aug.	JOHN HIGGS.
1575.	25 Sept.	JOHN HIGGS.
1575.	25 Feb.	KATHERIN HIGGS.
1576.	14 Feb.	JOAN HIGGS.
1577.	19 Sept.	JOHN HIGGS.
1577.	27 Jan.	MARIE HIGGS.
1579.	14 May.	EDWARD HIGGS.
1579.	14 June.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1579.	19 July.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1580.		No register kept by default of THOMAS JONES, Vicar, and HUGH RICHARD, Curate.
1582.	1 Nov.	ROGER HIGGS.
1583.	17 April.	KATHERIN HIGGS.
1584.	17 April.	JOHN HIGGS.
1585.	7 April.	JOHN HIGGS.
1587.	10 Mar.	RICHARD HIGGS.
1592.	27 Mar.	JOHN HIGGS.
1602.	12 Sept.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1602.	21 Mar.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1604.	14 Jan.	AGNIS HIGGS.
1605.	25 Mar.	MARYE HIGGS.
1605.	24 Feb.	JAMES HIGGS.
1607.	8 Nov.	JOHN HIGGS.
1607.	22 Nov.	EDWARD HIGGS.
1608.	1 May.	AN HIGGS.
1609.	26 Feb.	JANE, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.
1610.	6 May.	ELIZABETH HIGGES.
1610.	17 June.	JANE HIGG.
1612.	29 Mar.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1612.	14 June.	JOHN HIGGS.
1613.	21 Nov.	KATHERIN HIGGS.
1614.	6 Nov.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1615.	16 April.	DOROTHY HIGGS.
1624.	13 June.	THOMAS HIGGS.





1635.	17 May.	LENARD HIGGS.
1640.	9 June.	WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1642.	28 July.	ELEANOR, daughter of WILLIAM and ELEANOR HIGGS.
1642.	7 Sept.	WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and JOANE HIGGS.
1645.	27 July.	DOROTHY, daughter of JAMES and DOROTHY HIGGS.
1646.	18 Oct.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM and ELEANOR HIGGS.
1647.	26 Oct.	JAMES, son of JAMES and DOROTHY HIGGS.
1651.	4 May.	EDWARD, son of EDWARD HIGGS ( <i>borne</i> ).
1653.	25 July.	WILLIAM, son of EDWARD HIGGS ( <i>borne</i> ).
1655.	25 Dec.	THOMAS, son of JOHN HIGGS.
1656.	3 Aug.	HENRY, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1656.	5 Jan.	ANNE, daughter of JAMES HIGGS.
1655.	6 Nov.	GEORGE, son of EDWARD HIGGS.
1660.	4 Mar.	WILLIAM, son of JOHN HIGGS.
1663.	30 Aug.	WILLIAM, son of LENARD HIGGS and MATHEW, his wife.
1664.	27 Nov.	LENARD, son of LENARD HIGGS.
1665.	11 Mar.	MARY, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1669.	4 April.	THOMAS, son of WILLIAM and ELEANOR HIGGS.
1670.	7 Oct.	WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and SUSANNAH HIGGS.
1671.	23 Mar.	RICHARD, son of WILLIAM and SUSANNAH HIGGS.
1672.	24 Feb.	— son of EDWARD and JOANE HIGGS.
1673.	13 Oct.	JAMES, son of LEONARD and MARTHA HIGGS.
1674.	5 May.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM and SUSANNAH HIGGS.
1675.	14 Feb.	EDWARD, son of EDWARD and JOANE HIGGS.
1678.	4 Nov.	ELIZABETH, daughter of EDWARD and JOANE HIGGS.
1679.	27 Dec.	WILLIAM, son of JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1681.	6 Mar.	MARY, daughter of EDWARD and JOANE HIGGS.
1682.	19 June.	ELIZABETH, daughter of — HIGGS.
1683.	11 Aug.	JAMES, son of JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1684.	5 Mar.	JOHN, son of HENRY and ANNE HIGGS.
1685.	3 May.	GEORGE and JOHN, sons of EDWARD and JOANE HIGGS.
1687.	4 May.	SARAH, daughter of JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1688.	19 July.	EDWARD, son of EDWARD and JOANE HIGGS.
1688.	24 July.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS.
1688.	4 Sept.	(No name), son of HENRY and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1689.	19 Dec.	ANNE, daughter of HENRY and ANNE HIGGS.
1690.	22 Oct.	JOHN, son of LEONARD and MARY HIGGS.
1690.	1 Jan.	MARY, daughter of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS.
1691.	12 July.	DINAH, daughter of EDWARD and JOANE HIGGS.
1692.	26 Nov.	ANNE, daughter of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS.
1693.	11 April.	SARAH, daughter of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS.
1694.	20 Feb.	THOMAS, son of EDWARD and JOANE HIGGS.
1695.	16 June.	MARY, daughter of LEONARD and MARY HIGGS.
1695.	27 Sept.	MARTHA, daughter of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS.
1695.	22 Dec.	GEORGE, son of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1696.	21 Mar.	MARTHA, daughter of HENRY and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1697.	2 July.	LEONARD, son of LEONARD and MARY HIGGS.
1698.	8 May.	THOMAS, son of HENRY and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1698.	26 June.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1698.	25 Sept.	FRANCES, daughter of FRANCIS and MARY HIGGS.
1698.	7 Feb.	JOANE, daughter of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS.
1699.	22 Oct.	MARTHA, daughter of LEONARD and MARY HIGGS.
1699.	29 Jan.	JOHN, son of FRANCIS and MARY HIGGS.
1699.	29 Dec.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1701.	22 July.	ANNE, daughter of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS.
1701.	2 Aug.	THOMAS, son of FRANCIS and MARY HIGGS.
1703.	19 Sept.	MARY, daughter of FRANCIS and MARY HIGGS.
1703.	23 Sept.	JAMES, son of LEONARD and MARY HIGGS.
1705.	22 July.	ELIZABETH, daughter of FRANCIS and MARY HIGGS.
1706.	27 May.	JAMES, son of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS.
1707.	16 Nov.	HENRY, son of FRANCIS and MARY HIGGS.





1708.	14 July.	DAVID, son of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS, and buried two days after.
1708.	21 June.	ELIZABETH, daughter of LEONARD and MARY HIGGS.
1709.	1 Aug.	WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS.
1709.	6 Nov.	JAMES, son of FRANCIS and MARY HIGGS.
1710.	15 Oct.	JOHN, a child "left in ye parish" with a paper written to this purpose: " <i>The son of JOHN HIGGS—take care of him</i> ".
1711.	12 Nov.	JONATHAN, son of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS.
1712.	18 May.	AMY, daughter of FRANCIS HIGGS.
1713.	3 Nov.	ELIZABETH, daughter of HENRY and MARY HIGGS.
1714.	29 June.	RICHARD and DAVID, sons of LEONARD and MARY HIGGS.
1714.	26 Sept.	JAMES, son of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS.
1717.	8 May.	EDWARD, son of GEORGE and MARY HIGGS.
1717.	16 Sept.	MARY, daughter of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS.
1719.	12 April.	JOHN, son of JAMES and MARTHA HIGGS.
1720.	28 Mar.	MARY, daughter of GEORGE and MARY HIGGS.
1720.	6 Jan.	DAVID, son of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS.
1721.	12 Nov.	HENRY, son of JAMES and MARTHA HIGGS.
1722.	3 April.	SARAH, daughter of GEORGE and MARY HIGGS.
1722.	29 Nov.	JOHN, son of JOHN and ANN HIGGS.
1723.	5 Jan.	JAMES, son of JAMES and MARTHA HIGGS.
1726.	9 Jan.	ANN, daughter of JOHN and ANN HIGGS.
1735.	20 Dec.	HANNAH, daughter of JOHN and HANNAH HIGGS.
1737.	6 June.	MARY, daughter of WILLIAM and MARTHA HIGGS.
1739.	16 Sept.	JOHN, son of JOHN and HANNAH HIGGS.
1740.	28 Feb.	MARTHA, daughter of WILLIAM and MARTHA HIGGS.
1743.	27 May.	FRANCIS, son of WILLIAM and MARTHA HIGGS.
1743.	25 Sept.	SARAH, daughter of JOHN and HANNAH HIGGS.
1747.	16 Dec.	MARY, daughter of JOHN and HANNAH HIGGS.
1747.	4 Jan.	THOMAS, son of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS.
1748.	31 July.	ELIZABETH, daughter of EDWARD and SARAH HIGGS.
1750.	15 Aug.	ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN and MARTHA HIGGS.
1750.	2 Dec.	JOHN, son of EDWARD and SARAH HIGGS.
1755.	18 April.	JOHN, son of JOHN and MARTHA HIGGS.
1755.	4 May.	ANN, daughter of EDWARD and SARAH HIGGS.
1755.	19 Oct.	MARTHA, daughter of JAMES and MARTHA HIGGS.
1757.	15 May.	SARAH, daughter of EDWARD and SARAH HIGGS.
1757.	16 May.	NATHANIEL, son of JOHN and MARTHA HIGGS.
1759.	30 Sept.	GEORGE, son of EDWARD and SARAH HIGGS.
1761.	29 Nov.	ANNA, daughter of EDWARD and SARAH HIGGS.

(Note.—This entry appears on a half sheet bound in the register between burials and weddings.)

1763.	23 Jan.	MARTHA, daughter of EDWARD and SARAH HIGGS.
1765.	11 Aug.	JANE, daughter of EDWARD and SARAH HIGGS.
1768.	17 April.	EDWARD, son of EDWARD and SARAH HIGGS.
1771.	5 Jan.	PATIENCE, daughter of JOHN and FRANCES HIGGS.
1775.	2 April.	JOHN, son of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1776.	6 Oct.	ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN and FRANCES HIGGS.
1777.	5 Jan.	ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1778.	13 Sept.	ANN, daughter of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1778.	25 Dec.	FRANCES, daughter of JOHN and PHYLLIS HIGGS.
1781.	18 June.	CHARLOTTE, daughter of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1783.	12 June.	WILLIAM, son of JOHN and PHYLLIS HIGGS.
1783.	1 Aug.	MARY, daughter of JOHN and MARY HIGGS.
1784.	28 Sept.	NATHANIEL, son of NATHANIEL and MARY HIGGS.
1786.	22 Oct.	MARTHA, daughter of NATHANIEL and MARY HIGGS.
1790.	7 Mar.	SARAH, daughter of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1791.	19 June.	SARAH, daughter of GEORGE and MARY HIGGS.
1796.	28 Aug.	JOHN, son of GEORGE and MARY HIGGS.
1806.	26 Jan.	MARY, daughter of GEORGE and MARY HIGGS.
1812.	8 Aug.	JOHN, illegitimate son of SARAH HIGGS.





1817.	19 Oct.	RICHARD, son of WILLIAM and MARTHA HIGGS, born 15 Sept.
1820.	30 April.	SARAH, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS, labourer, and MARTHA. Born 6 April.
1822.	12 Mar.	ANN, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS, labourer, and MARTHA. Born 2 Mar.
1824.	18 July.	MARY, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS, labourer, and MARTHA. Born 14 June.
1827.	20 May.	JOHN, son of JOHN HIGGS, labourer, and MARY. Born 22 April.
1829.	29 Nov.	WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM HIGGS, labourer, and MARTHA. Born 22 Oct.
1833.	14 April.	JOSEPH, son of WILLIAM HIGGS, labourer, and MARTHA. Born 24 Mar.
1835.	8 Nov.	RICHARD, son of WILLIAM HIGGS, labourer, and MARTHA. Born 13 Oct.
1839.	19 May.	MARY, daughter of JOHN HIGGS, labourer, and SARAH. Born 23 April.

*Burials, 1538-1850 :*

1540.	6 July.	RICHARD HIGGS.
1541.	—	RICHARD HIGGS.
1541.	—	EM. HIGGS.
1564.	6 June.	RICHARD HIGGS.
1564.	12 July.	AGNIS HIGGS.
1566.	27 Aug.	JOHN HIGGS.

(Note.—This was JOHN HIGGS of “Hookend, Basildon”, whose will was proved in 1566, ‘Arch. Berks’, Book F, fo. 5.—W. M. H.)

1567.	13 Mar.	GRIGORIE HIGGS.
1575.	30 April.	AGNIS HIGGS.
1577.	1 Dec.	KATHERIN HIGGS.
1578.	29 Sept.	MARGARET HIGGS.
1581.	24 Feb.	JOHN HIGGS.
1582.	9 Jan.	NICHOLAS HIGGS.

(Note.—His will was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Berks in 1583, Book G, fo. 377.—W. M. H.)

1583.	26 Aug.	AGNIS HIGGS.
1585.	20 Sept.	JOANE HIGGS.
1586.	1 June.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1587.	10 Dec.	JOHN HIGGS.

(Note.—His will was proved 1588, ‘Arch Berks’, Book H, fo. 297.—W. M. H.)

1590.	29 Aug.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1590.	27 Dec.	JOHN HIGGS.
1594.	22 Feb.	JOANE HIGGS.
1596.	10 Feb.	MABELL HIGGS.
1598.	7 July.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1598.	27 Jan.	JOHN HIGGS ( <i>alias</i> JENKIN HIGGS, son of NICHOLAS.—W. M. H.)
1606.	20 May.	HENRY HIGGS.

(Note.—Will filed in Consistory of Sarum, 26 May, 1606.)

1609.	23 April.	GEORGE HIGGS.
1611.	17 May.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1611.	11 Oct.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1616.	4 July.	DENIS, wife of THOMAS HIGGS of the . . . .
1619.	21 April.	MARIE HIGGS.
1623.	31 Oct.	EDWARD HIGGS.
1624.	30 Dec.	JOHN HIGGS.
1632.	7 Sept.	AGNES HIGGS.
1633.	28 Nov.	WALTER HIGGS.

(Note.—His will was proved ‘Arch. Berks’, 1633, original.—W. M. H.)

1633.	20 Dec.	MARY HIGGS.
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1635.	30 Oct.	ANN, wife of THOMAS HIGGS.
1637.	27 Dec.	MARGARET HIGGES, widow (St. John's Day).
1638.	7 Oct.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGES.
1641.	23 Jan.	FRANCIS HIGGS.
1656.	26 Aug.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1657.	18 May.	THOMAS, son of JOHN HIGGS.
1659.	9 April.	The wife of JOHN HIGGS.
1663.	24 Mar.	GEORGE HIGGS.
1664.	30 Oct.	ELENOR, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1677.	14 Nov.	EDWARD, son of EDWARD HIGGS.
1678.	16 Aug.	NICHOLAS HIGGS.
1680.	21 Mar.	ANNE HIGGS.
1681.	2 Dec.	JAMES HIGGS.
1687.	27 Feb.	JOANE HIGGS, widow.
1692.	20 Nov.	DINAH, daughter of EDWARD HIGGS.
1694.	2 May.	LEONARD HIGGS.
1694.	20 Oct.	SARAH, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1695.	12 May.	ELEANOR, wife of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1695.	12 July.	DOROTHY HIGGS, widow.
1696.	12 Jan.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1698.	7 June.	ELIZABETH, wife of HENRY HIGGS, buried at Pangbourne ; died 5 June.
1699.	4 Aug.	ELIZABETH, wife of JAMES HIGGS.
1700.	7 Aug.	ELEANOR, wife of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1702.	12 Feb.	JOAN, wife of EDWARD HIGGS.
1703.	9 Oct.	MARY, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1703.	1 Feb.	MARY, daughter of EDWARD HIGGS.
1704.	15 May.	MARTHA, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1704.	1 Jan.	" Old WILLIAM HIGGS of Hookend."
1704.	5 Feb.	MARTHA HIGGS.
1705.	30 June.	ANNE, daughter of HENRY HIGGS.
1706.	9 June.	JAMES, son of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS.
1707.	19 Dec.	THOMAS, son of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1708.	16 July.	DAVID, son of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS.
1708.	6 Mar.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1709.	30 July.	ANN, wife of HENRY HIGGS.
1709.	30 Jan.	JOHN HIGGS.
1712.	19 May.	EDWARD HIGGS.
1713.	15 May.	MARTHA, daughter of LEONARD and MARY HIGGS.
1713.	25 May.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1714.	6 Aug.	RICHARD and DAVID, sons of LEONARD and MARY HIGGS.
1716.	28 Jan.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1717.	8 April.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1719.	30 Nov.	FRANCES HIGGS.
1721.	22 May.	DAVID, son of WILLIAM and POSTHUMA HIGGS.
1722.	20 Dec.	ANN HIGGS.
1723.	20 Aug.	GEORGE HIGGS.
1725.	5 June.	KATHERINE HIGGS, widow.
1727.	29 April.	JAMES HIGGS, senior, and JAMES HIGGS, junior.
1728.	3 Aug.	MARY, wife of LEONARD HIGGS.
1728.	9 Aug.	LEONARD HIGGS (shepherd).
1728.	29 Aug.	SARAH HIGGS, widow.
1732.	6 Mar.	ELIZABETH HIGGS, widow.
1737.	30 Nov.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1738.	31 Oct.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1741.	28 April.	JONATHAN HIGGS, infant.
1741.	20 Sept.	DINAH HIGGS.
1743.	7 April.	JONATHAN HIGGS of Pangbourne.
1743.	3 June.	MARTHA HIGGS.
1743.	7 Feb.	FRANCIS HIGGS, infant.
1744.	25 June.	GEORGE HIGGS.





1745.	26 Jan.	FRANCIS HIGGS.
1749.	30 Jan.	MARY HIGGS.
1750.	27 Mar.	MARY HIGGS.
1752.	7 Jan.	JOHN HIGGS.
1753.	29 May.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1754.	2 Feb.	POSTHUMOR HIGGS.
1754.	2 June.	ALISE HIGGS.
1755.	4 June.	JAMES HIGGS.
1755.	29 Dec.	MARTHA HIGGS.
1759.	6 May.	MARY HIGGS.
1762.	18 Feb.	ANNA HIGGS, infant.
1763.	23 Jan.	HANNAH HIGGS.
1764.	30 Dec.	RICHARD HIGGS.
1772.	29 April.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1773.	8 Jan.	ANN HIGGS.
1774.	17 Jan.	MARTHA HIGGS.
1777.	13 July.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1779.	10 Nov.	JOHN HIGGS.
1784.	26 Aug.	FRANCIS HIGGS.
1786.	23 Oct.	—— HIGGS were buried (twins).
1789.	1 Aug.	DAVID HIGGS.
1794.	29 May.	EDWARD HIGGS.
1801.	13 Feb.	MARY HIGGS.
1806.	4 June.	JOHN HIGGS.
1807.	27 Mar.	HANNAH HIGGS.
1814.	16 Oct.	MARY HIGGS of Basildon, Wood Green, aged 46 years.
1816.	11 Dec.	ELIZABETH HIGGS of Wood Green, aged 63 years.
1820.	9 Nov.	RICHARD HIGGS of Basildon, aged 3 years.
1821.	24 April.	GEORGE HIGGS of Basildon, aged 63 years.
1824.	15 Dec.	JOHN HIGGS of Basildon, aged 69 years.
1827.	11 Nov.	JOHN HIGGS, of Basildon, aged 77 years.
1835.	22 April.	SARAH HIGGS of Basildon, aged 15 years.
1835.	30 May.	JOSEPH HIGGS of Basildon, aged 2 years.
1837.	27 Sept.	ANN HIGGS of Basildon, aged 15 years.
1839.	20 Jan.	MARTHA HIGGS of Basildon, aged 45 years.
1843.	18 June.	CAROLINE HIGGS of Basildon, aged 1 year.
1847.	18 Aug.	ALICE HIGGS of Basildon, aged 50 years.
1849.	1 Dec.	WILLIAM HIGGS of Basildon, aged 56 years.

BISHAM PARISH REGISTERS (Extracts ; not complete from commencement).

*Baptisms, 1614-1666.* (These registers commence in 1560.)

1614.	19 Feb.	SIMON, son of OLIVER HIGGS.
1615.	30 Aug.	DOROTHY, daughter of JOHN HIGGS.
1616.	22 Dec.	JOHN, son of OLIVER HIGGS.
1653.	24 Sept.	KATHERINE, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.
1663.	8 Nov.	JOHN, son of THOMAS HIGGS.
1666.	9 Aug.	SARAH, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.

*Burials, 1625-1676.*

1625.	30 Aug.	DOROTHY HIGGS.
1667.	16 Jan.	SARAH, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.
1676.	16 Oct.	THOMAS HIGGS.

(Note.—In the Consistory Court of Sarum (*vide* Calendar of Higgs family wills filed in this Court) is that of LETTICE HIGGS of Bisham, 14 November, 1692).

**THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BLOWBERRY (OR BLEWBERRY), CO. BERKS.**

Apparently the first HIGGS to settle in Blewbury was WILLIAM HIGGS of Streatley, Co. Berks, which place is just across the Thames from Goring, Oxon, Streatley between Basildon and Moulstord on the Berkshire side of the river.





WILLIAM HIGGS of Streatley had land at Blowberry (or Blewbury) (with which parish is incorporated that of Upton, Berks), a village lying to the south of Wallingford and not far from Cholsey. By his will proved in 1626 ('Arch. Berks', M, fo. 105) WILLIAM HIGGS of Westridge, in the parish of Streatley, left to his son THOMAS HIGGS his lands in Upton Parish of Blewberry. This WILLIAM HIGGS had a brother of the same name (as frequently occurred at this period) living at Hampstead Norris, a village at on great distance from Thatcham. These WILLIAM HIGGSES were probably sons of RICHARD HIGGS (a brother of GRIFFITH HIGGS of South Stoke, who was buried at Westridge in 1578). RICHARD HIGGS of Westridge was a cousin of JOHN CLARKE, Gentleman and Armiger, of Ardington, Co. Berks, as stated in his will, and also of THOMAS HIGGS of Whitchurch, in Oxfordshire. So here we see a definite relationship between the HIGGSES of Streatley, the HIGGSES of Blewberry, the HIGGSES of Hampstead Norris, and the HIGGSES of Whitchurch; and as THOMAS HIGGS of Blewberry had a brother JOHN HIGGS of Westridge who, in his will proved in 1665 (original Berkshire will), mentions his kinsman RICHARD HIGGS of Sulhampstead Bannister, Co. Berks, a further relationship is established to the HIGGS family of that place. From the Blewberry and Upton Parish Registers we find the following entries:

*Baptisms:* Upton—

1628.	24 Aug.	WILLIAM, son of THOMAS HIGGS and ANNE, his wife.
1632.	16 Sept.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGS.
1636.	6 Sept.	DOROTHY, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS and DOROTHY, his wife.

Blewberry—

1782.	24 Mar.	ANNA MARIA, daughter of NATHANIEL and ANNA MARIA HIGGS.
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*Burials:* Upton—

1638.	16 July.	WILLIAM, son of THOMAS HIGGS.
1669.	22 Jan.	THOMAS HIGGS.

Blewberry—

1758.	2 Jan.	CATHERINE HIGGS.
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*Marriages:*

1774.	4 Oct.	MARY HIGGS of Upton, spinster, to WILLIAM ARMSTRONG of East Hagborn, Berks. Witnesses: JOHN HIGGS and FRANCES CHILD.
1778.	25 Oct.	MARY ARMSTRONG ( <i>née</i> HIGGS) to JOHN SIMES of West Hagborn, Co. Berks. Witnesses: JOHN HIGGS and WILLIAM FRUIN.

THOMAS HIGGS, who was buried at Blewberry, 22 January, 1669, had a son TOBIAS HIGGS, yeoman, of Blewberry. This TOBIAS HIGGS, from his will proved in 1699 (P.C.C. "Pett", fo. 133), apparently died without issue. His brother THOMAS HIGGS is the only HIGGS mentioned by him in his will. The will is witnessed by one LATHEWS CORDERAY. The name of BARON (JAMES BARON, the younger) appears in the will.

### THE CORDEROY FAMILY.

A branch of the family of CORDERAY, or CORDEROY, which has so frequently intermarried with various branches of the family of HIGGS, was long seated at Blewberry (which is but nine miles from Chieveley, close by Thatcham). JUSTUS CORDEROY, of Blewberry Mills (son of JOSEPH CORDEROY of that place, by MARY ANN STRONG, his wife, and grandson of THOMAS CORDEROY, also of Blewberry Mills, by MARTHA STRONG, his





wife) married in 1851 a daughter of STEPHEN RUMSEY of Chilton, Co. Berks, by SARAH FREWIN HIGGS, his wife. SARAH FREWIN RUMSEY (*née* HIGGS) was the daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon, by MARTHA (FREWIN?) his wife, and she was a sister of WILLIAM HIGGS (baptized at South Stoke, 10 November, 1822, who became the father of Mr. THOMAS HIGGS, building contractor, of Goring, Oxon), of THOMAS FREWIN HIGGS (baptized at South Stoke 13 January, 1807, and buried there 25 September, 1848), and of JOHN HIGGS (baptized at South Stoke 20 June, 1813). She was also a sister of MARTHA HIGGS, who married WILLIAM HIGGS of North Stoke. (*Vide* Pedigree of HIGGS Family of Goring-on-Thames, Oxon.)



JUSTUS CORDEROY of Blewberry Mills had no less than eight sons: JOSEPH, WILLIAM, HORACE, JUSTINIAN, JUSTUS, JULIUS, LAELIUS and EDGAR CORDEROY. Their great-grandfather, THOMAS CORDEROY, of Blewberry Mills, was of the seventh generation of CORDEROY or CORDERAY living at Blewberry Mills (nine miles from Chieveley, twelve miles from Henwick and five miles from South Stoke).

It will be remembered that SAMSON HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, married ANN, the daughter of GEORGE CORDEROY of Thatcham, by MARTHA NORTHWAY, his wife, 17 October, 1789, at Oare Chapel-of-Ease, parish of Chieveley, Berks. This GEORGE CORDEROY was the son of GEORGE CORDEROY of Hermitage, in the parish of Chieveley, by SARAH, his wife, and was born 17 February, 1733. Chieveley was formerly a part of the parish of Hampstead





Norris, Berks, a village to the south of Blewberry, and there is every possibility that GEORGE CORDEROY of Hermitage, in the parish of Chieveley, was a descendant of the CORDEROY family living at Blewberry Mills, and that they in turn were a branch of the ancient family of CORDEROY long seated at Clute in Wiltshire. The name is spelt in many different ways, such as CORDEROY, CORDERAY, CORDREY, CORDRAY, CORDEREY, COWDEROY, COWDERAY, CORDERY, CORDARY, COULDREY, etc., etc.—families originating from a common Norman baronial stock, which has spread over many counties in the course of centuries, and found in many social spheres: large land owners, yeoman farmers, tradesmen and labouring classes. The family at Clute bore arms “Sable, a chevron between two mullets in chief, and a lion passant in base ducally crowned Or, all within a bordure argent”, whilst some in Berkshire used “Sable, a chevron Or between two mullets in chief of the last and a lion passant in base argent, crowned Or” with the crest of “A human heart gules, ducally crowned Or” (the crown resting *on* the heart, *not* above or over it.—W. M. H.).

This crest has been in use by the CORDEROY family descended from GEORGE CORDEROY of Hermitage in the parish of Chieveley.

Another branch spelling their name CORDREY use arms “Or, on a bend azure three lions’ heads erased of the field”, whilst the COWDREYS family of Berkshire use “Gules thirteen billets Or, 4, 4, 3 & 2”.

In 1529 a JOHN CORDEROY became Abbot of Chertsey, Co. Surrey, and in Broyley’s ‘History’ of this county, a very interesting record is given of this member of the CORDEROY family.

#### THE DESCENDANTS OF GEORGE CORDEROY OF THATCHAM AND MARTHA NORTHWAY, HIS WIFE.

As recorded in Chapter VI, GEORGE CORDEROY, son of GEORGE and SARAH CORDEROY of Chieveley, Berks, was baptized at Chieveley 17 February, 1733. On 23 January, 1765, he married at Thatcham Parish Church, MARTHA, daughter of Mr. WILLIAM NORTHWAY (churchwarden of Thatcham in 1750), and a grand-daughter of OSWALD NORTHWAY, yeoman, at Henwick, in this parish, by ELIZABETH BROWNE, his wife.

GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY had one son and three daughters:

1. GEORGE CORDEROY (of whom later), baptized 24 December, 1769.
- (1) ANN, baptized 26 September, 1765, and died in infancy.
- (2) ANN, baptized 15 September, 1767, and married at Oare Chapel-of-Ease in the parish of Chieveley, Berks, 17 October, 1789, SAMSON, son of ADAM HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham.
- (3) MARY, born in 1768, who died in infancy and was buried at Thatcham 28 May, 1769.

The son of GEORGE CORDEROY followed his father’s occupation as a local builder, and later, leaving Thatcham, settled in Lambeth, London, where he attained a responsible position as manager to a large firm of Government contractors carrying on business in Belvedere Road, Lambeth, or as it was then known, as “Pedlar’s Acre”. He married 20 March, 1791, a widow, MARY, the former wife of JOHN DOWNING, of the parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, and whose maiden name was NEWBERRY, and they became the parents of a large family of six sons and two daughters:

1. GEORGE CORDEROY, born 14 June, 1794 (of whom later).
2. WILLIAM CORDEROY, born 6 July, 1801. He married 24 May, 1824, MARY DOWNING (who was born 1 December, 1792, and died 2 December, 1857) and dying 10 March, 1860, left by her two children:
  1. GEORGE CORDEROY, born 22 May, 1835. Married 25 August, 1858, LYDIA,





daughter of ELIAS NEEL of Jersey (she was born 28 April, 1831), by whom he had six sons and two daughters :

- I. GEORGE CORDEROY, born 11 July, 1859. Married 29 October, 1900, LYDIA, daughter of ——— DE MOULPIED (she was born 28 October, 1879), and dying 3 March, 1923, left by her five sons and one daughter :
  1. GEORGE CORDEROY, born 10 September, 1901.
  2. EDWARD CORDEROY, born 2 November, 1902.
  3. WILLIAM CORDEROY, born 4 February, 1904.
  4. STEPHEN CORDEROY, born 8 March, 1906.
  5. OLIVER CORDEROY, born 5 April, 1920.
- (1) STELLA, born 2 January, 1911.
2. WILLIAM CORDEROY, born 10 September, 1860.
3. JOHN CORDEROY, born 8 February, 1862.
4. EDWARD CORDEROY, born 11 August, 1863.
5. ATHELSTANE CORDEROY, born 10 June, 1866. He married GERTRUDE, daughter of ——— HAMLEY of Buckfastlagh, by whom he had issue.
6. HAROLD CORDEROY, born 29 August, 1867.
- (1) LYDIA, who married THOMAS KIRKUP and had issue.
- (2) MARY CORDEROY, born 20 December, 1868 ; died 6 May, 1870.

#### Northcroft Family.

- (1) MARY, born 1 February, 1833. She married 28 December, 1856, HENRY THOMAS, son of WILLIAM NORTHCROFT of Chalfont St. Giles (he was born 23 November, 1814), and by him had three sons and five daughters :
  - I. HENRY NORTHCROFT, born 30 December, 1855. He married ADA PERRY, and by her had two sons and one daughter :
    1. PERCIVALE WILLIAM CORDEROY NORTHCROFT, 2nd Lieut. 3rd Batt. Rifle Brigade. Killed in action 31 July, 1917, in France.
    2. ALFRED GEORGE CORDEROY NORTHCROFT. During the World War he held a Commission in the R.G.A., B.E.F.
  - (1) ROSEMARY CORDEROY (NORTHCROFT). She served during the World War on the W.R.A. Volunteer Reserve.
- HENRY NORTHCROFT was a Captain in the Marylebone Volunteers, and was killed in action during the World War 22 October, 1916.
2. WILLIAM NORTHCROFT.
3. GEORGE NORTHCROFT, L.D.S. England, D.D.S. Served during the World War at the 1st London Military Hospital. Born 8 July, 1869.
- (1) MARY (NORTHCROFT), born September, 1857. She married ARTHUR BOUTWOOD.
- (2) FANNY (NORTHCROFT), born March, 1859.
- (3) JESSIE (NORTHCROFT), born 14 February, 1861, died 13 May, 1877.
- (4) KATE (NORTHCROFT), born 25 January, 1866. She married CHARLES GIBBS and had issue.
- (5) NELLIE (NORTHCROFT), born 21 September, 1867.

#### Corderoy Family—cont. :

3. JOHN CORDEROY, born 5 March, 1804. He married 1 July, 1828, HANNAH MARIA KITTLE, by whom he had one son and two daughters :
  - I. JOHN KITTLE CORDEROY, born 1 January, 1832. He married HONOR WILLIAMS, daughter of ——— MATTHEWS of St. Ives, Co. Cornwall, 10 August, 1855, by whom he had four sons and eight daughters :
    1. JOHN MATTHEWS CORDEROY, born 15 August, 1859.
    2. ALFRED EDWARD CORDEROY, born 26 October, 1865.
    3. DANIEL WILLIAM CORDEROY, born 7 December, 1866.
    4. GEORGE OSWALD CORDEROY, born 17 May, 1892.
  - (1) SOPHIA MARY, born 12 August, 1856. She married WILLIAM KIDGER, son of ——— GLOVER of Blean (?).
  - (2) HONOR MARIA, born 3 July, 1858. Married 18 September, 1880, JOSEPH REID BROADHEAD, by whom she had issue.
  - (3) GERTRUDE ALICE, born 16 March, 1861.





- (4) HARRIET EMMA, born 14 October, 1862. She married ——— MACDONALD of ———, by whom she had issue.
- (5) ESTHER MARTHA, born 14 January, 1864. She married a Mr. TOPE and had issue.
- (6) MARGARET ELLEN, born 5 July, 1868. She married ——— MACDONALD (who was killed in the Chinese Boxer Rising), by whom she had issue.
- (7) AGNES EDITH, born 30 August, 1869. She married WILLIAM EDWARD PARKIN, by whom she had a son RONALD PARKIN and a daughter HONOR.
- (8) FLORENCE EMILY, born 18 February, 1871. She married a Mr. BROOMHALL and has issue.
- (1) HANNAH SOPHIA, born 4 April, 1830.
- (2) MARIA COTES, born 20 August, 1836. She married 12 March, 1862, WILLIAM, son of JAMES CHESHIRE, of Surbiton-on-Thames, Co. Surrey—he was born 16 March, 1837, and died 18 October, 1915—and by him had eight sons and six daughters :

**Cheshire Family of Surbiton, Co. Surrey.**

- 1. WILLIAM CORDEROY CHESHIRE, born 3 July, 1864. He married 23 June, 1892, MAY ELIZABETH, daughter of GEORGE MILLS of Fairford, Co. Gloucester, by whom he had three sons and two daughters :
  - 1. JOHN ERNEST CHESHIRE, born 10 April, 1896. He married and has issue. During the World War he served with the Australian Imperial Forces.
  - 2. FREDERICK GORDON CHESHIRE, born 12 September, 1903.
  - 3. LESLIE CORDEROY CHESHIRE, born 20 May, 1906.
  - (1) FLORENCE MABEL (CHESHIRE), born 29 August, 1894.
  - (2) LILIAN MAY (CHESHIRE), born 15 March, 1898.
- 2. JOHN CORDEROY CHESHIRE, born 28 January, 1866. He married FLORENCE HASLEDEAN, daughter of FRANK W. DIGGONS of Islington, London—(she was born 27 September, 1866)—and 18 July, 1894—by her has issue.
- 3. EDWARD JAMES CHESHIRE, born 16 July, 1867. He married 3 September, 1892, KATE MARIAN, daughter of ALFRED WILES, of Sutton, Co. Surrey (she was born 13 November, 1871), and by her had issue two sons and three daughters :
  - 1. ERIC CORDEROY CHESHIRE, born 29 August, 1895. He held a Commission in the 4th Royal Fusiliers, and was killed in action in France 3 May, 1917.
  - 2. KENNETH JOHN CHESHIRE, born 28 October, 1901.
  - (1) MURIEL (CHESHIRE), born 25 November, 1897. She married 2 November, 1921, CHARLES AUSTEN, son of JOHN H. NARBETH, Esq., C.B., etc.
  - (2) MARGARET GWENNETH (CHESHIRE), born 8 July, 1906.
  - (3) DOROTHEA KATHLEEN (CHESHIRE), born — July, 1910.
- 4. GEORGE HERBERT CHESHIRE, born 12 October, 1868. He married 9 June, 1891, MARY JANE, daughter of JOHN NORKETT, by whom he has two sons and four daughters :
  - 1. JOHN NORKETT CHESHIRE, born 4 April, 1892. He married 17 October, 1919, JESSIE DUVAL, daughter of WILLIAM OCKENDEN of Cheam, Co. Surrey (she was born 13 April, 1889).
  - 2. GEORGE ARTHUR CHESHIRE, born 2 June, 1899.
    - (1) KATHLEEN MARY (CHESHIRE), born 3 March, 1893.
    - (2) MARGARET JOYCE (CHESHIRE), born 17 June, 1894, died 14 June, 1895.
    - (3) HILDA CORDEROY (CHESHIRE), born 20 October, 1901.
    - (4) EVELYN MILDRED (CHESHIRE), born 4 November, 1903.
- 5. CHARLES HENRY CHESHIRE, born 29 September, 1869, died 5 December, 1899.
- 6. ERNEST HOWARD CHESHIRE, born 12 April, 1871. He married 13 September, 1902, BLANCHE HARRIET, daughter of HENRY MALPAS of Carshalton, Co. Surrey (she was born 6 December, 1874), and by her had issue two sons :
  - 1. ERNEST CORDEROY CHESHIRE, born 7 November, 1903.
  - 2. LEONARD JOHN CHESHIRE, born 2 February, 1913.
- 7. ARTHUR EDWARD CHESHIRE, born 8 April, 1872, married 8 October, 1904, ELIZABETH MARY ANN, daughter of JAMES PARKIN of Sutton, Co. Surrey (she was born 16 April, 1871).
- 8. FREDERICK THOMAS CHESHIRE, born 31 July, 1874, died 28 February, 1876.





**Chandler Family.**

- (1) MARIA CORDEROY (CHESHIRE), born 12 March, 1863, married 21 March, 1883, GEORGE, son of GEORGE CHANDLER of Sutton, Co. Surrey. (He was born 18 January, 1852, and died 18 May, 1896.) By him she had two sons and three daughters :

1. FREDERICK GEORGE CHANDLER, F.R.C.P.(Lond.), M.A., M.D.(Camb.), R.A.M.C., Captain during the World War. He was born 25 July, 1885, and married 4 February, 1919, MARGERY, daughter of FREDERICK RAIMES of Stockton-on-Tees—(she was born 5 April, 1895)—and by her has one son and two daughters :

1. GEOFFREY CHANDLER, born 15 November, 1922.

- (1) MARGARET RAIMES (CHANDLER), born 12 July, 1920.

- (2) ELIZABETH ANN (CHANDLER).

Dr. FREDERICK GEORGE CHANDLER is Physician to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London (1933), and the City of London Chest Hospital.

2. EDWIN SPENCER CHANDLER, born 25 June, 1895. Held a Commission in the 10th Sherwood Foresters during the World War, and was killed in action in France 14 February, 1916.

**Quibell Family of Newark.**

- (1) KATE AMELIA (CHANDLER), born 12 February, 1884. She married 25 October, 1905, ERNEST HALL, son of F. O. QUIBELL of Newark, by whom she has three sons :

1. THOMAS HENRY HALL QUIBELL, born 18 July, 1907.

2. PHILIP QUIBELL, born 10 July, 1910.

3. NOEL OLIVER QUIBELL, born 22 December, 1911.

**Chandler Family—cont. :**

- (2) ALETHEA EDITH (CHANDLER), born 6 July, 1888. She married 11 October, 1911, PERCY DUNCAN (son of THOMAS EDWARD) SYKES of Huddersfield, B.A., by whom she has a son :

1. EDWIN LEONARD SYKES, born 1 May, 1914.

- (3) HILDA MARY (CHANDLER), L.R.A.M., born 24 February, 1890. She married 27 December, 1917, WILFRED THOMAS BESWICK, M.B., son of THOMAS BESWICK of Buxton—(he was born 19 November, 1891)—and by him she has a son :

1. THOMAS SPENCER LESLIE BESWICK, born 24 December, 1919.

**Cheshire Family—cont. :**

- (2) HARRIET SOPHIA (CHESHIRE), born 9 July, 1873.

- (3) EDITH SARAH (CHESHIRE), born 5 January, 1876, died 14 August, 1876.

- (4) FLORENCE EMILY (CHESHIRE), born 11 March, 1877, died 11 December, 1879.

- (5) CATHERINE ELIZABETH CORDEROY (CHESHIRE), born 22 October, 1878, died 6 September, 1882.

- (6) BESSIE MABEL (CHESHIRE), born 22 December, 1879, died 15 December, 1882.

**Corderoy Family—cont. :**

4. DANIEL CORDEROY, fourth son of GEORGE CORDEROY and MARY DOWNING, *née* NEWBURY, born 6 April, 1806, and died 4 February, 1808.

5. JOSHUA CORDEROY, born 12 April, 1809. *Ob. inf.*

6. EDWARD CORDEROY, born 8 October, 1811. He married 16 May, 1839, SARAH HEWSON BARON of Hull, Co. York (born 4 August, 1808, died 22 January, 1876), and dying 10 May, 1865, left by her three sons and five daughters :

1. CLEMENT EDWARD CORDEROY, born 6 June, 1844. He married 25 November, 1874, LUCY BRAMPTON, daughter of WILLIAM CONQUEST of London (she was born 28 January, 1844), and dying in June, 1920, left by her three sons and two daughters :

1. WILLIAM EDWARD CORDEROY, born 21 September, 1875. He married LOTTIE COLEMAN, and was killed in action with the Yorks and Lancs Regiment in France 9 October, 1917. He left a daughter :

- (1) ELSA, born 30 September, 1905.





2. CLEMENT BARON ORD CORDEROY, born 19 January, 1879. He married MARTIE ———, by whom he has a son and two daughters :
  1. JOHN CORDEROY.
  - (1) MARY ANTOINETTE.
  - (2) EDITH.

CLEMENT BARON ORD CORDEROY served with the Royal Army Service Corps, B.E.F., during the World War.
3. JOHN COLLEY CORDEROY, born 14 July, 1881, died in 1901 in the South African War.
  - (1) LUCY CONQUEST, born 14 May, 1877. She married CHARLES COLEMAN 25 November, 1874.
  - (2) AIMEE, born 14 May, 1877 (twin with her sister LUCY CONQUEST). She married W. M. K. TUCKER, who during the World War was Lieut.-Col. R.A.S.C., and by whom she has three daughters :
    - (1) LUCY MARGARET (TUCKER), born 23 September, 1907.
    - (2) EDITH GRACE (TUCKER), born 19 June, 1909.
    - (3) IRENE (TUCKER).
2. GEORGE ALFRED CORDEROY, born 9 February, 1847. He married 20 May, 1880, EMILY, daughter of Mr. T. LEE PILDITCH of Frome, Co. Somerset—(she was born 30 March, 1843)—and by her had two sons and one daughter :
  1. EDWARD GEORGE BARON CORDEROY, born 3 January, 1882.
  2. HEWSON BARON CORDEROY, born 26 April, 1883.
  - (1) HELEN MARGUERITE CORDEROY, born 24 July, 1884.
3. JOHN WILLIAM CORDEROY, born 7 August, 1851. He married KATE LOVELL DAW, daughter of ——— MEADOWS of ———, by whom he had no issue.

#### Curnock Family of Bristol.

- (1) SARAH BARON, eldest daughter of EDWARD CORDEROY and SARAH HEWSON BARON, his wife, born 11 June, 1840. She married 13 February, 1866, NEHEMIAH, son of NEHEMIAH CURNOCK of Bristol, Co. Gloucester (he was born 30 March, 1840), and dying 9 January, 1921, left by him three sons and seven daughters :
  1. CLEMENT CORDEROY CURNOCK, born 6 July, 1868. He married MARY ASHWIN, by whom he has four sons :
    1. GEORGE ASHWIN CURNOCK, Lieut., 6th Batt. Rifle Brigade. Killed in action during the World War, 14 August, 1917.
    2. MANLEY CURNOCK.
    3. ARTHUR CLEMENT CURNOCK, settled in Canada. During the World War he served with the 153rd Canadian Light Infantry.
    4. GODFREY NEHEMIAH CURNOCK.
  2. GEORGE CORDEROY CURNOCK, born 26 August, 1869. He married 23 January, 1901, GRACE COOK, by whom he has one son and two daughters :
    1. GEORGE CHARLES DESBUCAY CURNOCK, born 23 December, 1909.
    - (1) GRACE (CURNOCK), born 1 December, 1901.
    - (2) ROSE MAGDALEN (CURNOCK), born 2 June, 1905.
  3. WILLIAM MACGREGOR CURNOCK, born 1872. *Ob. inf.*

#### Harlow Family.

- (1) MARY BARON (CURNOCK), born 16 February, 1867. She married JOHN EDWARD HARLOW, by whom she had a son :
  - (1) JOHN HARLOW, who married FLORENCE MARRIOTT, by whom he has two sons :
    1. JOHN MARRIOTT HARLOW.
    2. EDWARD LESLIE HARLOW, who served as Lieutenant with the 222nd Siege Battery, R.G.A., B.E.F., during the World War.

#### Curnock Family—cont. :

- (2) EDITH BARON (CURNOCK), born 6 July, 1868. *Ob. inf.*
- (3) GERTRUDE ANNIE, born 27 December, 1875. She married WILLIAM MOORE. They had no family.





- (4) ELLA BARON (CURNOCK), born 20 November, 1873. During the World War she was a Sister in the V.A.D., and also did patrol work at Cardiff.
- (5) MAUD (CURNOCK), born 20 November, 1873. *Ob. inf.*
- (6) MABEL HEWSON (CURNOCK), born 26 December, 1876. She married J. W. ALCOCK, by whom she has one daughter :
  - (1) RUTH (ALCOCK), born 1 March, 1903.

#### Bush Family.

- (7) RUTH WIEREAT (CURNOCK), born 16 September, 1879. She married FREDERICK BUSH, and by him has one son :
  - 1. GEORGE CURNOCK BUSH, born — June, 1922.

#### Corderoy Family---cont. :

- (2) EDITH MARY, second daughter of EDWARD and SARAH CORDEROY, born 10 September, 1841.
- (3) EMMA FANNY (CORDEROY), born — November, 1862.

#### Frank Family.

- (4) ELLEN MARIA (CORDEROY), born 25 October, 1845. She married 9 February, 1869, GEORGE HUGHES, son of JOHN FRANK (G. H. FRANK was born 14 March, 1843), and by him she had one son and four daughters :
  - 1. JOHN BARON FRANK, born 14 July, 1876 ; he married EDITH GUNDRY, by whom he has two daughters :
    - (1) JOAN (FRANK).
    - (2) GUNDREDA (FRANK).
  - (1) ELLA (FRANK), born 6 December, 1869. She married Major EDWIN M. BRAY (Indian Army), by whom she has no issue.
  - (2) ALICE (FRANK), born 6 November, 1870. She married BERNARD ULPH, by whom she has a son and a daughter :
    - 1. ROBERT ULPH.
    - (1) CICELEY (ULPH).
  - (3) MARY CORDEROY (FRANK), born 16 November, 1874. She married ALBERT DAINTREE and had issue.
  - (4) NORAH (FRANK), born 1 July, 1883.
  - (5) KATE ELIZA (CORDEROY), born 31 May, 1850, died 11 December, 1855.

#### Corderoy Family---cont. :

- (1) ESTHER MARTHA, the elder daughter of GEORGE CORDEROY of Lambeth, by MARY DOWNING (*née* NEWBERRY), his wife, was born 11 January, 1792. She married RICHARD, son of RICHARD NASH of Lambeth (he died 1858), and by him had three daughters :
  - (1) ESTHER, born 4 November, 1818, died 28 June, 1876, buried at Norwood.

#### Thompson Family of Cumberland.

- (2) MARY (NASH), born 7 October, 1819. She married at Lambeth Church 1 August, 1843, SAMUEL RICHARD, son of RICHARD THOMPSON of Cumberland (he was born 21 June, 1815), and by him had five sons and four daughters :
  - 1. RICHARD NASH THOMPSON, born 26 May, 1844.
  - 2. SAMUEL THOMPSON, born 1 November, 1846, died 26 February, 1848, buried at Norwood Cemetery.
  - 3. WILLIAM GEORGE THOMPSON, born 23 September, 1850.
  - 4. HENRY NASH THOMPSON, born 9 November, 1856.
  - 5. ALFRED CORDEROY THOMPSON, born 7 October, 1858. He married first JESSIE COOK, by whom he had two sons and one daughter :
    - 1. HAROLD THOMPSON, M.A.(Oxon.), born ———. During the World War he held a Commission in the 1st Northamptonshire Regiment, and was killed in action in France 9 May, 1915.
    - 2. GEOFFREY THOMPSON, B.Sc., Montreal, Canada. During the World War he served with the 2nd Sappers and Miners, Queen Victoria's Own, Bangalore, and was killed in France 3 September, 1916.





- (1) MARY (THOMPSON). She married LEONARD ALEXANDER COON, who during the World War held a Commission in the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, B.E.F.

ALFRED CORDEROY THOMPSON was for many years General Manager of the Prudential Assurance Company, and latterly was Chairman of that Company. He lived at "Chetnole", Oatlands Avenue, Weybridge, Co. Surrey. He married secondly BERTHA ——. He died in 1928, aged seventy, and left an estate of the gross value of over £108,000, or \$543,000.

#### Marshall Family.

- (1) ESTHER MARY (THOMPSON), born 20 November, 1848. She married at South Hackney Parish Church 31 May, 1879, ROBERT, son of JAMES NASH MARSHALL (he was born 20 February, 1851), and by him had two sons:

1. ROBERT NASH MARSHALL. During the World War he served as Lieutenant in H.M.S. "Moorhen". He married SYLVIA LYNETTE, daughter of JAMES MARSHALL of Cranleigh, Co. Surrey, by whom he has two daughters:

- (1) MARY (MARSHALL).  
(2) DORA LYNETTE (MARSHALL).

2. SYDNEY JAMES MARSHALL. During the World War he served in France with the King's Hussars, and was killed in action with that regiment 8 August, 1918. By his wife DORA, daughter of — CHANDLER of London, he left a daughter ENID (MARSHALL).

#### Thompson Family—cont.:

- (2) EMILY LUCY (THOMPSON), born 3 February, 1852, died 21 October, 1852.  
(3) CLARA (THOMPSON), born 23 August, 1853, died 1 September, 1853.  
(4) ROSA (THOMPSON), born 14 October, 1854, died 12 December, 1858.

#### Nash Family.

- (3) SARAH (NASH), the third daughter of RICHARD NASH and ESTHER MARTHA CORDEROY, his wife, was born 4 September, 1821, and died September, 1822, and was buried in Lambeth Chapel Burial Ground.

#### Corderoy Family—cont.

- (2) MARY ANN, the second daughter of GEORGE CORDEROY of Lambeth and MARY DOWNING (*née* NEWBERRY), his wife, was born 13 March, 1797. She married 23 December, 1815, JOSHUA, son of SAMSON HIGGS, of Cold Ash, in the Parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, and they became the ancestors of the family of HIGGS now settled in Australia and Tasmania (*vide* Chapter XIV). She died 25 March, 1860 (*vide* Chapter VI). They had issue three sons and eight daughters. Their youngest daughter SARAH HIGGS married at St. Mark's Church, Kennington, Co. Surrey, 24 November, 1865, JOHN, son of JAMES ADNAMS of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Berks. JOHN ADNAMS was born at Cold Ash 22 October, 1839. He, with little doubt, had an uncle,\* JOHN ADNAMS of Thatcham, as on 31 March, 1829, JOHN and ANN ADNAMS of Thatcham baptized their daughter ANN at Thatcham Independent Chapel.

**Higgs Family.**

**Adnams Family of Cold Ash.**

The family of ADNAMS had long been settled in the parish of Thatcham, Berks, and in and around Newbury, Berks. In 1644 JONE (or JOAN) ADNAM of Crookham (parish of Thatcham) was buried in Thatcham Churchyard. On 1 July, 1661, THOMAS ADNAM and JOANE KEMBER were married at Thatcham. Coming down to the nineteenth century GEORGE ADNAMS was one of the Trustees of the Independent Chapel at Thatcham in 1804, and also one ALFRED ADNAMS, whilst in 1803 a Mr. JOSEPH ADNAMS was one of those who met at the Crown Inn, Thatcham, on 21 July to offer himself for the Volunteer Corps of Cavalry to be then raised in case of an invasion by NAPOLEON. A branch of this family owned the Brewery at Speenhamland, just outside Newbury, and their brewery stands on a part of the premises once wholly occupied by the old "Bear" Inn. (*Vide* 'History of Newbury', by Walter Money, F.S.A., 1887, fo. 340.)

\* JOHN ADNAMS of Thatcham, farmer and a bachelor, married 18 November, 1816, aged twenty-one, ANN TAYLOR of Baughurst, spinster, at Baughurst, Co. Hants. JOSEPH TAYLOR, farmer, bondsman.





JOHN ADNAMS, who lived at Hungerford, the son of JAMES ADNAMS of Cold Ash, had by SARAH HIGGS, his wife, one son and four daughters:

1. JOHN CORDEROY ADNAMS, born 20 January, 1867. He resided at Hungerford, and died there 22 June, 1933. By his wife JEANNIE RICHING . . . he had two daughters—
  - (1) MERCIE.
  - (2) OLIVE.

During the World War JOHN CORDEROY ADNAMS served as a Special Constable in Hungerford, and his wife JEANNIE and two daughters worked in connection with the V.A.D. organization.

- (1) GRACE MARY (ADNAMS), born 7 August, 1868, married Mr. FRED BROOKS, Manager of the West Bank, Newbury, by whom she has two daughters.
  - (1) GRETA PARKER (BROOKS), born 5 June, 1904.
  - (2) IRIS MARIE (BROOKS), born 27 July, 1906.
- (2) ELLEN BERTHA (ADNAMS), born 11 March, 1870, died 3 June, 1882.
- (3) EDITH SARAH (ADNAMS), born 29 October, 1871, died 5 December, 1876.
- (4) ETHEL MARIA (ADNAMS), born 8 June, 1873. She married Capt. E. PERCY DICKIN (M.D.), of the Royal Army Medical Corps, who served with the British Expeditionary Forces during the World War. His wife was also a war worker as a Nursing Sister at the Auxiliary War Hospital.

#### Corderoy Family—cont.

Returning to the eldest son of GEORGE CORDEROY by MARY DOWNING (*née* NEWBERRY), his wife, namely GEORGE CORDEROY, born 14 June, 1794, he married 12 July, 1818, at St. Ann's Church, Blackfriars, ANN SMITH of Bristol (she was born in 1794, and died 4 May, 1862), and dying 6 May, 1878, left, by his first wife (for he married secondly JANE MOXON), three sons successively named "GEORGE", who all died in infancy, and six daughters, namely:

- (1) ANN (CORDEROY), born 13 May, 1819. Died in infancy.

#### Herbert Family.

- (2) MARY MOUNTFORD (CORDEROY), born 7 February, 1820. She married in 1839 GEORGE HERBERT of Mary-le-bone, London, and dying in 1842 left by him a son:
    1. GEORGE HERBERT, born in 1841. He married PHOEBE ———, and by her had a daughter:
      - (1) LOUISA (HERBERT), who became the wife of one named GRAY.
- GEORGE HERBERT, the younger, married secondly, 11 August, 1873, MARGARET JONES, and by her had a son:
1. GEORGE MARTIN HERBERT, born 6 June, 1874.

#### Higgs Family.

- (3) ANN SMITH (CORDEROY), born 26 December, 1829. She married 12 July, 1853, GEORGE, the fourth son of CALEB HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Berks, and of Mitcham Lane, in the parish of Streatham, Co. Surrey, by SARAH, daughter of RICHARD NASH (the elder), of Lambeth, his wife (*vide* Chapter XI).

#### Corderoy Family—cont.:

- (4) ELLEN PHOEBE (CORDEROY), born 12 January, 1832, died 31 October, 1834.
- (5) HARRIET (CORDEROY), born 1 June, 1834; died in infancy.

#### Sexton Family.

- (6) ELIZABETH (CORDEROY), born 11 November, 1835. She married 18 September, 1861, RICHARD, son of RICHARD SEXTON of Paddington, London (he was born in 1837 and died 20 September, 1901). She dying 9 December, 1912, left by him two sons and three daughters:
  1. RICHARD CORDEROY SEXTON. He married 22 September, 1895, HARRIET PRUDENCE ASH, and dying 9 April, 1911, left by her a daughter:
    - (1) DOROTHY HETTA (SEXTON), born 6 April, 1898.





2. GEORGE FREDERICK SEXTON, born 5 August, 1874. During the World War he was Captain in the 3rd Batt. Queen's Westminster (Cadet Battalion).  
 (1) SARAH ELIZABETH, born 6 September, 1863.

#### Aveline Family.

- (2) MARY JANE (SEXTON), born 16 May, 1869. She married 22 September, 1897, CHARLES HENRY, son of CHARLES AVELINE of Bedford, by whom she had two sons and two daughters :  
 1. CHARLES AVELINE, born 5 November, 1903.  
 2. GEORGE FREDERICK AVELINE, born 8 March, 1909.  
 (1) ELSIE JANE (AVELINE), born 22 September, 1899.  
 (2) MARGERY ANNIE (AVELINE), born 25 December, 1906.  
 (3) ANNA EMMA (SEXTON), born 6 June, 1870.

Having given some record of the descendants of GEORGE CORDEROY and MARTHA NORTHWAY, his wife, the following list of marriages, baptisms and burials extracted from the Thatcham Parish Registers, and those of other local parishes, will be of interest and value to those connected with this family. The various spelling of the name is of interest :

#### THATCHAM, CO. BERKS.

##### Marriages :

1570.	24 April.	JOHN COULDREY and ELIZABETH DIBLEY.
1604.	12 Nov.	ROBERT COWDRY and MARGARET ARLARD.
1605.	17 Nov.	THOMAS CORDERY and ANNIS TULL.
1705.	3 Jan.	GEORGE CORDEROY and MARTHA NORTHWAY.
1815.	19 June.	T. WARTON and ELIZA FRANCES CORDEROY of Bucklebury.
1836.	17 May.	GEORGE PARR and HARRIOT CORDEROY, widow.
1837.	6 Nov.	MARK DOWLING and CLARA (or SARAH) CORDEROY.

##### Baptisms :

1571.	6 May.	JOAN COLDRIEY.
1606/7.	7 Feb.	JOHN CORDERYE, son of JAMES CORDERYE.
1607.	— June.	JOHN CORDRYE, son of ROBERT CORDRYE.
1608.	30 Oct.	WYLLIAM CODRYE, son of THOMAS CODRYE.
1609.	10 Dec.	GEORGE COWDRY, son of ROBERT COWDRY.
1611.	17 Feb.	VINCENT COWDREY, son of ROBERT COWDREY.
1612.	5 July.	ELIZABETH CORDREY, daughter of THOMAS CORDEROY.
1614.	10 Jan.	CORDERAYE SMITH, son of ANDREWE SMITH.
1614.	1 Mar.	ELIZABETH, daughter of ROBERT COWDREY.
1767.	15 Feb.	ANN, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.
1768.	12 June.	MARY, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.
1770.	21 Jan.	GEORGE CORDEROY, son of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.
1771.	26 Dec.	SARAH, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.
1774.	1 July.	MARTHA, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.
1780.	25 June.	ELIZABETH, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.

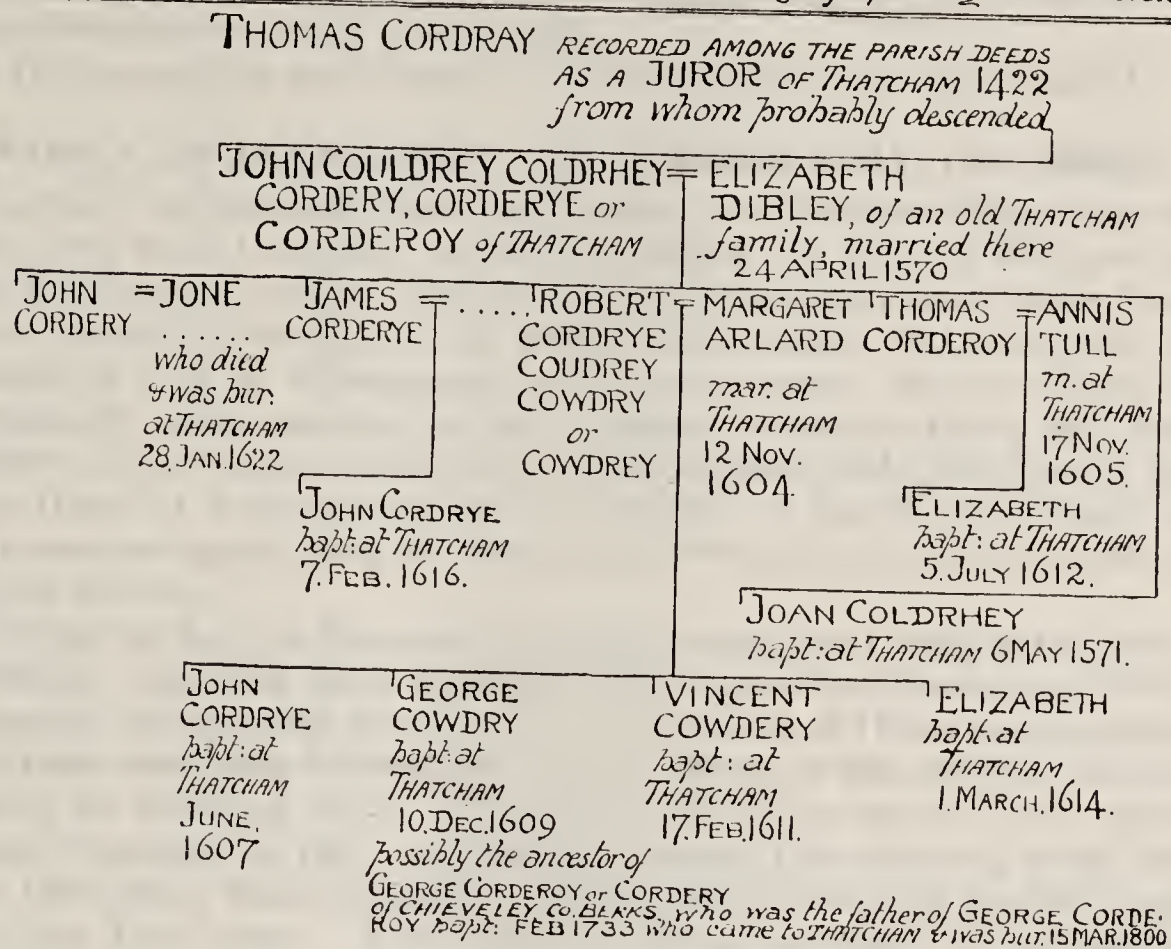
##### Burials :

1740.	30 July.	JOHN CODRY, of Wendover, Co. Bucks.
1764.	23 May.	ANN CORDREY, spinster.
1765.	26 Aug.	ANN, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.
1768.	29 Jan.	SARAH CORDEROY, widow. (No doubt the widow of GEORGE CORDEROY of Chieveley.)
1768.	28 May.	MARY, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.
1778.	15 Mar.	HANNAH CORDEROY.
1780.	30 July.	LUCY CORDEROY.
1780.	25 June.	ELIZABETH, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.
1783.	17 Oct.	MARTHA, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.
1783.	24 Oct.	FANNY, daughter of GEORGE and MARTHA CORDEROY.





*The following tabulation has been deduced from the Parish Registers and early documents and clearly shows the difficulty of establishing an authentic descent from the great variety of Spelling encountered*



#### CHIEVELEY PARISH REGISTERS.

Marriages, 1651-1744. None.

Baptisms, 1683-1744:

1731. 19 Sept. SARAH, daughter of GEORGE and SARAH CORDEROY.  
1733. 17 Feb. GEORGE, son of GEORGE CORDEROY.  
1738. 25 June. ANNE, daughter of GEORGE CORDEROY.

Burials, 1647-1747:

1742. 26 May. GEORGE CORDEROY, of Hermitage, Parish of Chieveley.  
(Note.—Originally this parish was a portion of the parish of Hampstead Norris.)

GEORGE CORDERY or CORDEROY of Hermitage, in the parish of Chieveley, was a "kinsman" of THOMAS DOUGLAS of Barkham, Co. Berks, as is proved from the will of THOMAS DOUGLAS dated 22 May, 1710, and proved 25 September in that year ('Arch. Berks', 20/22). THOMAS DOUGLAS was a blacksmith, and apparently his brother RICHARD DOUGLAS succeeded to his business and GEORGE CORDERY or CORDEROY of Chieveley was apprenticed to him, and THOMAS DOUGLAS willed to him his anvil.

GEORGE CORDEROY of Chieveley followed this trade at Hermitage, and by his will proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Berkshire 23/276, 29 June, 1742 (by FRANCIS BALL at Oxford), he left twenty pounds to apprentice his son GEORGE "To such trade as to him and my executors shall think proper". He became a builder and carpenter at Thatcham, and his son GEORGE followed the trade in Lambeth, London.





## BRADFIELD.

From the parish registers of Bradfield it is evident that a branch of the HIGGS family was settled in this Berkshire parish at an early date.

A list of the HIGGS marriage entries here will be found at the close of Chapter VI.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BUCKLEBURY OR BÜRGHULBURY, CO. BERKS.

Bucklebury, or as it was anciently spelt, Burghulbury, is a Berkshire village situated about two miles north from Thatcham. A WILLIAM HIGGS was living in this place in the latter end of the sixteenth century, and from his will, which was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Berks in 1608 (ref. K., fo. 483), it will be found that this family of HIGGS were related to those in Ashampstead in the same county. WILLIAM HIGGS of Bucklebury specifically makes mention of his "cousins" WILLIAM HIGGS and ANN HIGGS, the children of JOHN HIGGS of Giles Court, Ashampstead, and CHRISTOPHER, the son of WILLIAM HIGGS of Ashampstead, was "a godson" of this WILLIAM HIGGS of Bucklebury. It does not appear from the will that this WILLIAM HIGGS of Bucklebury had any children of his own.

In the next century we find one RICHARD HIGGS and his wife MARY living in this place, and on 20 September, 1701, they had a daughter, JOAN, baptized at Bucklebury Parish Church. The registers of this parish have not been searched for all HIGGS family entries, and might yield some interesting information as to the family in this locality, and also in connection with the adjoining parish of Thatcham; they commence in 1538, whilst those of Thatcham commence in 1561. In 1725 (25 February) the following entry is to be found in the Bucklebury Parish Register: "MARY HIGGS, *buried in woollen*", and two years later, 29 July, 1728, "ANN HIGGS *was buried in woollen*". It may be interesting to give the reason for the statement "*buried in woollen*". By a singular sumptuary law in regard to the burying of the dead devised by the Parliament of 1666 (18 and 19 Charles II), it was enacted "*That after 25 March, 1667, no person should be buried in any shirt, shift or sheete other than should be made of wool only*". The provisions of this Act were so strict that even the quilting round the inside of the coffin and the ligature round the feet of the corpse were required to be of woollen. This law was enacted for the encouragement of the woollen manufactured, and prevention of the exportation of moneys for the buying and importing of linen. The statute was generally disobeyed and the penalty could seldom be enforced, because an information could only be laid by those who were most interested in concealing the offence. To remedy this a more stringent Act was passed in 1678 (30 Charles II), which *obliged the clergy to make an entry within eight days after the burial* certifying that the requirements of the law had been complied with. The statutes were finally repealed in 1814.

The Bucklebury Parish Registers commence in 1538, and in them the following entries are found:

*Marriages:*

1610.	—	RICHARD HIGGS and JOAN . . . (indecipherable).
1612.	30 Mar.	THOMAS BROWN and CHRISTINE HIGGS.
1641.	22 Nov.	RICHARD HIGGS and JOAN SWAINE.
1660.	10 Feb.	WILLIAM HIGGS and ELIZABETH MARCH.
1723.	—	GEORGE TITMUS and *ANNA HIGGS.

(\*Note.—Was this ANNA, daughter of NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick by ANN DIBLEY his wife?—W. M. H.)

*Baptisms:*

1614.	12 Mar.	ANN, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1614.	8 May	ELIZABETH, daughter of JAMES HIGGS.





1620.	1 Nov.	EDWARD, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1621.	1 July.	RICHARD, son of RICHARD HIGGS.
1622.	2 Mar.	CHRISTIAN, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS.
1623.	7 Mar.	MARGARET, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS.
1624.	11 April.	HENRY, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1625.	29 April.	RAYNOLDE, son of RICHARD HIGGS.
*1627.	2 April.	ROGER, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1627.	29 April.	JOHN, son of RICHARD HIGGS.
1629.	26 Nov.	ROBERT, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1632.	9 Sept.	JOHN, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1655.	—	JOAN, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS.
*1661.	26 Jan.	ROGER, son of ROGER HIGGS.
1701.	20 Sept.	JOAN, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS.
1703.	10 Mar.	JANE, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS.

(\*Note.—*Vide* Chapter V, *re* Ancestry of ROGER HIGGS of Thatcham. The above WILLIAM HIGGS lived at the Lodge, Bucklebury, whilst RICHARD HIGGS resided at Chapel Row.—W. M. H.)

*Burials :*

1654.	24 April.	JOAN, wife of RICHARD HIGGS.
1665.	2 Jan.	JOAN HIGGS.
1690.	25 Dec.	ANN HIGGS.
1695.	15 Mar.	RICHARD HIGGS.
1725.	25 Feb.	MARY HIGGS, buried in woollen.
1728.	29 July.	ANN HIGGS, buried in woollen.

(Note.—In the Registers of St. Lawrence Church, Reading, there is the following entry: "1658. Dec. 11. ROGER HIGGS and ANN CARSON of Bucklebury had their banns published in the Market Place of Reading". This marriage did not take place at St. Lawrence Church, Reading, neither is there any record of it at Bucklebury. It is probable that they were married by the Mayor of Reading, as frequently happened during those unsettled times. ROGER HIGGS baptized 1661 was no doubt their son.—W. M. H.)

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF COLESHILL AND OF RATCLIFFE, LONDON.

Coleshill is a Berkshire village, close to the Wiltshire border and about four miles west and a little to the south from Faringdon, and but four miles due south from Lechlade in Gloucestershire. Coleshill is well known as the seat of a branch of the ancient family of PLEYDELL (*vide* the PLEYDELL family, Chapter XVII). THOMAS, the fifth son of WILLIAM PLEYDELL of Coleshill, married ANNA, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester, and their daughter KATHERIN (PLEYDELL) married at Basildon, Co. Berks, 24 June, 1588, JOHN BUCKERIDGE of that place, and THOMAS BUCKERIDGE, the only child of that marriage, married KATHERIN, the daughter of JOHN, *alias* "JENKIN" HIGGS of Basildon. The Coleshill Parish Registers commence in 1559. A complete search has not been made through these. Such a search would no doubt decide *when* a branch of the HIGGS family first settled here—in all probability from Lechlade, or Northleach, in the county of Gloucester, or from Clanfield in Oxfordshire, or it may be from the family long seated in and around Cheltenham. From some scanty extracts of the eighteenth century taken from these registers it is apparent that a branch of the family was then settled in the place. There were, for certain, two men of the name of "HIGGS" living in Coleshill towards the end of the eighteenth century, namely, WILLIAM HIGGS and HENRY HIGGS, possibly brothers. WILLIAM was born here in 1757, and HENRY in 1771. HENRY HIGGS married at Coleshill in 1791 ELIZABETH SAYER, by





whom he had a son, WILLIAM SAYER HIGGS, baptized at Coleshill 11 June, 1798, and two daughters, CATHERINE (baptized 24 October, 1792) and MARY (baptized 12 July, 1795).

Of the subsequent descendants of HENRY HIGGS and ELIZABETH SAYER, his wife, no trace has been made, but the following is an account of the descendants of WILLIAM HIGGS of Coleshill born in 1757. In 1778 he married MIRIAM LEUKER, who was born at Coleshill in 1760, and who died and was buried there in September, 1827. WILLIAM HIGGS followed the trade of shoe-making, and when he died in 1836 was buried at Coleshill 4 August of that year. By MIRIAM, his wife, he had five sons and five daughters, as follows :

1. JAMES HIGGS (of whom later).
2. WILLIAM HIGGS, baptized at Coleshill 28 October, 1787.
3. RICHARD HIGGS, baptized at Coleshill 10 April, 1792.
4. HENRY HIGGS, baptized at Coleshill 30 July, 1793. He married, and by his wife, MARY, had two sons and one daughter :
  1. RICHARD HIGGS, baptized at Coleshill 1 June, 1828.
  2. JAMES HIGGS, baptized at Coleshill 6 June, 1830.
  - (1) CATHERINE, baptized at Coleshill 6 July, 1834.
5. THOMAS HIGGS, baptized at Coleshill 18 November, 1804 (born 17 November).
  - (1) ELIZABETH, baptized at Coleshill, 15 January, 1786.
  - (2) MARY ANN, baptized at Coleshill 8 November, 1789.
  - (3) LUCY, baptized at Coleshill 28 December, 1794.
  - (4) SOPHIA, baptized at Coleshill 30 October, 1796.
  - (5) HARRIET, baptized at Coleshill 16 February, 1806.

The eldest son, JAMES HIGGS, went into the service of the East India Company. He was born at Coleshill 22 February, 1784, and settling at Ratcliff, London, married SARAH (DEAL ?), who came from Lymington in Hampshire. JAMES HIGGS, dying 20 May, 1838, at the early age of fifty-four, left by SARAH, his wife, a number of children. The eldest son, WILLIAM HIGGS, named after his grandfather WILLIAM HIGGS of Coleshill, was born in London 28 May, 1804. He was baptized at St. Ann's Church, Westminster, and, like his father, lived at Ratcliff. He married ELIZABETH, daughter of ROBERT FULLER at St. Mary's Church, Whitechapel, 25 December, 1829. She was then twenty-one years of age, and only lived until she was thirty, dying 8 April, 1838, and was interred in the little graveyard belonging to Stepney Green Meeting House, one of the historic Nonconformist Churches in London. WILLIAM HIGGS died in July, 1880, and by ELIZABETH, his wife, left a son, WILLIAM HIGGS, also of Ratcliff, London, who was born 29 October, 1830, and was baptized at St. Dunstan's Church, Stepney. He married SARAH ANN, daughter of Capt. FREDERIC WILLIAM DALSTON (a son of JOHN and SUSANNAH DALSTON) by ANN WARD, his wife, a sister of JOHN WARD, Steward to the estate of the Baroness Ashby-de-la-Zouche (ANN WARD was born April, 1791, and died May, 1881). She belonged to an old family of WARD in the county of Kent). SARAH ANN HIGGS (*née* DALSTON) was born 3 March, 1825, and was baptized at Old Greenwich Church. It was at St. George's in the East that she married WILLIAM HIGGS 2 September, 1852. She died 8 January, 1882, and was interred in the Tower Hamlets Cemetery, where WILLIAM HIGGS had a family grave. Her father, Capt. FREDERICK WILLIAM DALSTON, was laid to rest in 1849 in the old Stepney Green burial ground.

WILLIAM HIGGS died 7 December, 1892, and left by his wife SARAH ANN four sons and two daughters :

1. FREDERICK WILLIAM DALSTON HIGGS, born 16 June, 1853.
2. JOHN FULLER HIGGS, born 27 January 1855. He married at Limehouse Wesleyan





Chapel 25 December, 1880, CATHERINE ELIZABETH, daughter of SILVESTER DOWLING and MARY WATKIN, his wife (who was born 20 April, 1855), and by her has two sons :

1. JOHN DALSTON HIGGS, born at Linchouse 2 October, 1881. He married HILDA CHRISTINE SQUIRE 29 May, 1910, by whom he has two sons, both born at Buckhurst Hill, Co. Essex :
  1. GRAHAM WARD HIGGS, born 27 March, 1915.
  2. DAVID MALCOLM JOHN HIGGS, born 17 July, 1921.
2. EDWARD WILLIAM HIGGS, born at Linchouse 6 April, 1883, died 10 March, 1914.
3. WILLIAM EDWARD HIGGS, born — October, 1862.
4. EBENEZER ALFRED HIGGS, born 21 January, 1865.
- (1) ANN ELIZABETH, born 22 September, 1858.
- (2) ROSE SARAH, born 19 October, 1860.

#### EIGHTEENTH CENTURY NOTES FROM THE COLESHILL PARISH REGISTERS.

##### *Marriages :*

1755. " Banns of Marriage between THOMAS MOSS of the parish and SARAH HIGGS of Clanfield in Oxfordshire were published in Coleshill Church on the 12th, 19th & 26th January 1755 by me J. W. NEWTON Vicar."
1778. " Banns of Marriage between WILLIAM HIGGS and MIRIAM LEUKER, both of this parish were published in this parish church May 17th, 24th & 31st, 1778. (Signed) WM. COATES for Mr. SWYNE."
1791. " Banns of Marriage between HENRY HIGGS and ELIZABETH SAYER, both of this parish were published in this church April 3rd, 10th & 17th 1791 by me RICHARD LAWRENCE Vicar."
1795. " Banns of Marriage between JEREMIAH HIGGS and ANNE ALLEN, both of this parish were published in this church 8th, 15th & 22nd February 1795."
1829. " Banns of Marriage between WILLIAM HIGGS and PHILLIS MARTIN were published May 11th 1829."

##### *Baptisms :*

- |       |           |   |
|-------|-----------|---|
| 1784. | 22 Feb.   | JAMES HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS, shoemaker, and MIRIAM, his wife, formerly MIRIAM LEUKER. |
| 1786. | 15 Jan.   | ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM and MIRIAM HIGGS.  |
| 1787. | 28 Oct.   | WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and MIRIAM HIGGS.   |
| 1789. | 8 Nov.    | MARY ANN, daughter of WILLIAM and MIRIAM HIGGS.   |
| 1792. | 10 April. | RICHARD, son of WILLIAM and MIRIAM HIGGS.   |
| 1792. | 24 Oct.   | CATHERINE, daughter of HENRY and ELIZABETH HIGGS.   |
| 1793. | 30 July.  | HENRY, son of WILLIAM and MIRIAM HIGGS.   |
| 1794. | 28 Dec.   | LUCY, daughter of WILLIAM and MIRIAM HIGGS.   |
| 1795. | 12 July.  | MARY, daughter of HENRY and ELIZABETH HIGGS.  |
| 1796. | 30 Oct.   | SOPHIA, daughter of WILLIAM and MIRIAM HIGGS.   |
| 1798. | 11 June.  | WILLIAM SAYER, son of HENRY and ELIZABETH HIGGS.  |
| 1804. | 18 Nov.   | (Aged one day) THOMAS, son of WILLIAM and MIRIAM HIGGS.                                     |
| 1806. | 16 Feb.   | (Aged six weeks) HARRIET, daughter of WILLIAM and MIRIAM HIGGS.                             |

(Note.—These entries were made by a former vicar from a Register which has since been unfortunately either lost or destroyed.)

##### *From a later Register of Baptisms :*

- |       |         |  |
|-------|---------|--|
| 1828. | 1 June. | RICHARD, son of HENRY and MARY HIGGS.        |
| 1830. | 6 June. | JAMES, son of HENRY and MARY HIGGS.          |
| 1834. | 6 July. | CATHERINE, daughter of HENRY and MARY HIGGS. |

##### *Burials from 1813 :*

- |       |          |                                 |
|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
| 1823. | 10 Mar.  | ELIZABETH HIGGS, aged 59 years. |
| 1827. | 29 Sept. | MIRIAM HIGGS, aged 67 years.    |
| 1836. | 4 Aug.   | WILLIAM HIGGS, aged 79 years.   |
| 1843. | 22 Feb.  | HENRY HIGGS, aged 72 years.     |





## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF EAST HAGBOURNE :

WITH SCANTY NOTES UPON A FAMILY OF HIGGSES IN CHELSEA, LONDON.

The parish registers of Hagbourne commence in 1662. These have not been examined for references to the HIGGS family, but according to the marriage register of South Stoke in Oxfordshire one WILLIAM HIGGS of Goring married, 12 April, 1665, ANNE HARWOOD of East Hagborn, Co. Berks, and settled, with his wife, in her native place.

Apparently this WILLIAM HIGGS died about 1680, as the goods and estate of a WILLIAM HIGGS of Hagborne were administered in that year (*vide* Arch. Berks, Admons.).

From this marriage descended a family of HIGGSES in this Berkshire village, yeomen and local tradesmen, and it is evident from the above that these HIGGSES came from Goring and were one and the same stock as those of South Stoke, Oxon. In the list of Arch. Berks Wills will be noted one of "WILLIAM HIGGS, yeoman, of East Hagbourne in 1745" (Reg. "24", fo. 68)—in all probability a son of the above marriage, and the father of a family of three sons and one daughter—JOHN HIGGS, RICHARD HIGGS and WILLIAM HIGGS, and MARY HIGGS—from whose will, proved in 1797 (P.C.C. "Exeter", fo. 93) the following information is gathered. She left to each of her three brothers £100. Her brother WILLIAM HIGGS, yeoman, had by his wife SARAH the following family :

1. JOHN HIGGS, eldest son.
  2. NATHANIEL HIGGS, to whom his Aunt MARY HIGGS left £100,
  3. RICHARD HIGGS, to whom his aunt MARY HIGGS likewise left £100.
  4. THOMAS HIGGS.
  5. WILLIAM HIGGS.
- (1) SARAH.  
(2) MARY.

There was a NATHANIEL HIGGS of East Hagborn, probably an uncle of the above seven children, who died in 1765. His will was proved in that year (*vide* 'Arch. Berks' "25", fo. 240).

The HIGGS family of Blewbury, Co. Berks, were related to the HIGGS family of East Hagborn, and about the end of the nineteenth century one WILLIAM HIGGS of Blewbury, said to have been an only child, and probably a descendant of the East Hagborn HIGGSES—for he had an estate in that place—upon his death left his East Hagborn property to his son THOMAS HIGGS, who had been born there. This THOMAS HIGGS married MARY LOUSLEY, and by her had a son, AUGUSTUS WILLIAM HIGGS, who settled in London, took his medical degrees, and practised as a doctor at Wellington Square, Chelsea. He married and has a son, who also follows his father's profession, and was House Surgeon at St. George's Hospital, London, in 1905. AUGUSTUS WILLIAM HIGGS had a brother who resided at Weybridge in the county of Surrey.

It is of interest to note that upon some ancient spoons in the possession of Dr. AUGUSTUS WILLIAM HIGGS of Chelsea was engraved this crest: "A boar's head with a pine-apple in its mouth", with the motto "Fide et Fortitudine". These spoons had descended to him from his grandfather WILLIAM HIGGS of Blewbury, but no crest of such a nature has ever been legally borne by any one of the name of HIGGS. These spoons probably came into this family by marriage. Strangely enough the motto is that used by the HIGGS family of Gloucestershire and of South Stoke, Oxon, and also by the BARTON family. An Irish branch of the BARTON family use for crest "*A boar's head erased ppr.*", and it would seem as though the pineapple in the mouth had been used as a mark of difference. This crest upon these ancient spoons rather points to the knowledge of a descent from the marriage of NICHOLAS HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon, with MARY, a daughter and co-heir of GRIFFIN BARTON, Esqre., in 1558, though the HIGGS family of South Stoke never quartered the arms of BARTON, which they would have been





entitled to do if GRIFFIN BARTON had been armigerous. He was a large landed proprietor in Herefordshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire, always termed either "Gentleman" or "Esquire", and through his grandmother BARTON was of Royal descent, and yet no trace of this family of BARTON having used armorial bearings has been found by the writer.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF WEST HANNEY.

The villages of West Hanney and East Hanney; in this Berkshire parish, lie about four miles to the north of Wantage, about six miles to the south-west from Abingdon, and about twelve miles north-west from South Stoke, Oxon. The parish registers of West Hanney date from 1565. These have not been examined for HIGGS entries, with the exception of marriages, which have been printed by Messrs. Phillimore & Co., Ltd., of 124, Chancery Lane, London (1914), and the following members of the HIGGS family were married at West Hanney Parish Church :

1565-1837 :

1761.	25 Jan.	RICHARD HIGGS and ANN HALL.
1765.	3 Jan.	JOHN HIGGS and ELIZABETH HEARTH.
1767.	3 June.	WILLIAM HIGGS and MARY PRIOR.
1785.	4 Dec.	RICHARD HIGGS and MARY BELCHER. (In pencil : "She came from Farringdon.")
1787.	22 Feb.	THOMAS ORPWOOD and MARTHA HIGGS.
1791.	4 Nov.	THOMAS HIGGS and ELIZABETH WITCHER.
1794.	3 Nov.	JOHN HIGGS and ANN BERNARD.
1794.	15 Dec.	ROBERT HIGGS and MARTHA MORGAN.
1801.	14 Nov.	RICHARD LAMBORTH and MARTHA HIGGS.
1820.	26 Nov.	CHARLES HIGGS of West Hanney and HANNAH HATTON of East Hanney. (Note written in pencil : "Went to America.")
1832.	6 Aug.	WILLIAM DUNSDON and ELIZA HIGGS.
1836.	23 July.	JAMES HIGGS and ELIZABETH TOMBS of East Hanney.

The above comprise all the HIGGS family marriages in West Hanney between 1565 and 1837.

It is evident from the Calendar of Wills for the Archdeaconry of Berkshire that this branch of the family was settled in Hanney prior to 1761, for in 1718 the will of RICHARD HIGGS of West Hanney was proved in this Court (Book "21", fo. 6), and is apparently the only will of administration of any HIGGS of this parish proved or administered through this Court. It is more than likely that this RICHARD HIGGS, who died about 1718, was the first of the family to settle in this place. A search of the parish registers would decide this. It will be noted that CHARLES HIGGS, in all probability the great-great-grandson of this RICHARD HIGGS, "*settled in America*" with his wife HANNAH (*née* HATTON), and they are no doubt the ancestors of many HIGGSES in the United States to-day.

In the Calendar of Wills proved in the Consistory Court of Sarum for Berkshire, the will of one RICHARD HIGGS of West Hanney, proved 1 June, 1753, will be found.

In the beginning of the twentieth century a descendant of this family, ARTHUR EDWARD HIGGS, married at West Hanney Parish Church, in September, 1904, KATE LOUISA, daughter of SILAS BECKINGHAM of this village. ARTHUR EDWARD HIGGS was born in the little village of East Hanney, where his parents lived in 1878. At the time of his marriage his father had died, and his mother had married a second time to one named PULLEN. ARTHUR EDWARD HIGGS had one sister, named ALICE, who became





the wife of a Mr. HORNE, and went to live in Cambridge Gardens, Notting Hill, London. For some eight years after ARTHUR EDWARD HIGGS married, he and his wife lived at East Hanney, and two sons were born to them, namely :

1. ARTHUR AMBROSE BECKINGHAM HIGGS, born at East Hanney 2 February, 1906.
2. ORICE CLIFFORD SILAS HIGGS, born 17 January, 1908, at East Hanney.

In 1912 this family settled in Ingersoll, Canada, and later moved to Revelstoke, British Columbia, but they had scarcely settled in this place three weeks when the father was taken ill with pneumonia and died, leaving his widow and two young sons in somewhat straitened circumstances, with the two little lads aged seven and five. However, the widow bravely carried on, and these two lads, after leaving school, secured any work they could obtain and are devoted sons. The elder looks after his mother and works locally, "a lover of home and a 'bookworm'," whilst the younger secured employment with the Canadian Pacific Railway on the Revelstoke Division, a very popular young man locally in sports, and during the winter of 1929 went to Chateau Frontenac, Quebec, the well-known C.P.R. resort, where he was ski instructor. Thus this branch of the family, long seated at Hanney in Berkshire, is "making good" in British Columbia.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF KINGSTON LISLE.

This is now a chapelry in connection with the parish of Sparsholt. Between the years 1560 and 1837—only one HIGGS family marriage is recorded as having taken place in connection with this chapelry, namely, that of—

RICHARD HIGGS and ANN ROWE, which took place 2 March, 1766.—('Phillimore's Parish Register Series').

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF NEWBURY.

The parish registers of this ancient Berkshire town commence in 1538, and from a careful examination of these, made for the compiler of this work in 1930, by the late Mr. W. G. STILLMAN of the Church House, Newbury, it is found that the first record of any HIGGS in this place was 7 May, 1768, when one JOHN HIGGS was buried, and in the register is designated "a stranger". A little more than three years later a WILLIAM HIGGS married ELIZABETH BACHELOR 25 February, 1681. The family of BACHELOR (or BATCHELOR) had long been seated at Newbury, and also in the not far distant town of Kingsclere, in the adjoining county of Hants. As early as 1568 we find one NICHOLAS BACHELOR recording his children by baptism in the Parish Church at Newbury and the following entries have been noted :

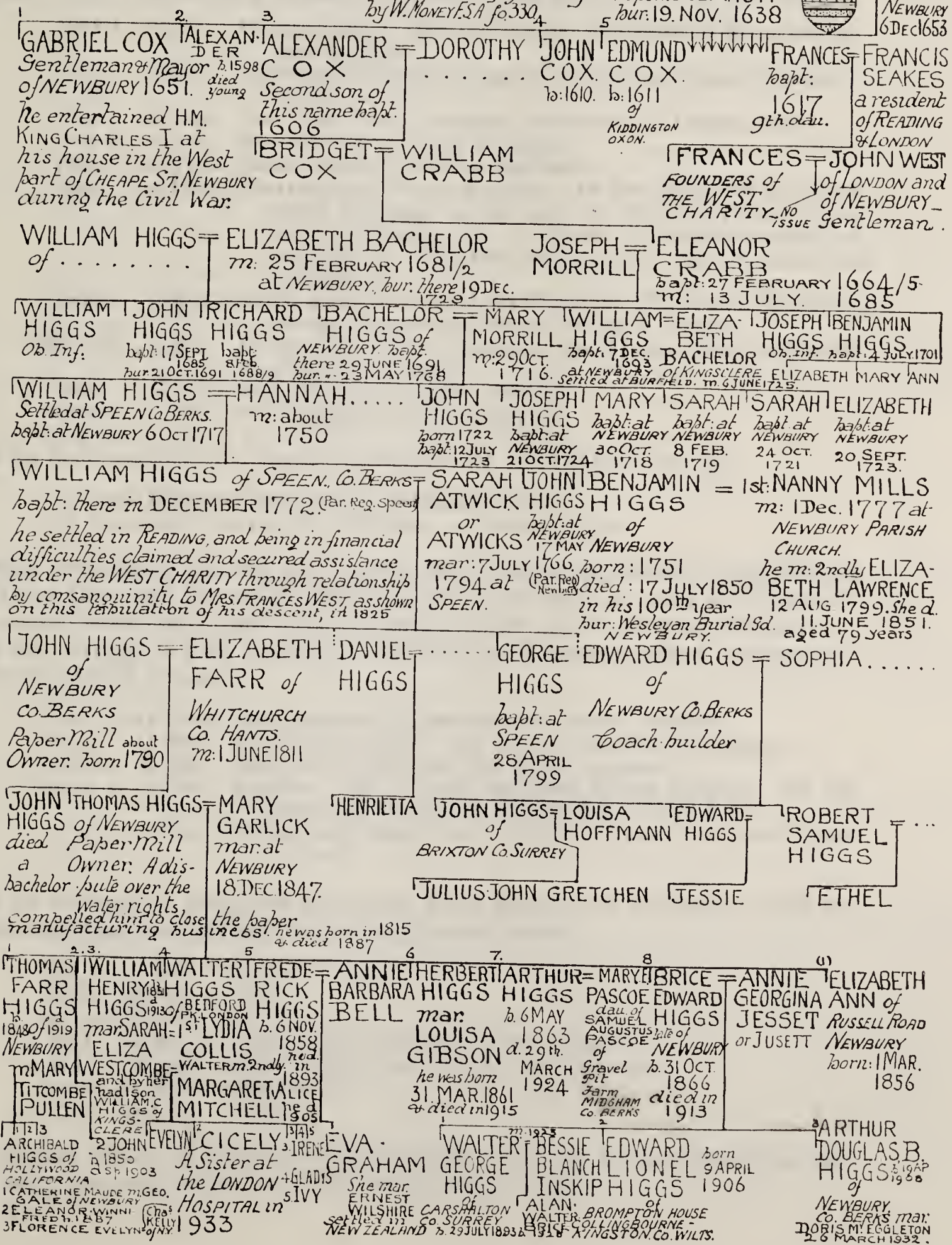
BACHELOR, WILLIAM, son of NICHOLAS, baptized 9 August, 1568 ;  
 BACHELOR, JONE, daughter of NICHOLAS, baptized 28 April, 1577 ;  
 BACHELOR, CHRISTIAN, daughter of NICHOLAS, baptized 9 February, 1584-5 ;  
 BACHELOR, NICHOLAS, son of NICHOLAS, baptized 18 October, 1588 ;

whilst one hundred years later one MARGARET BACHELOR was married at Newbury 18 August, 1678, to "NICHOLAS ——— of the Parish of Thatcham". She is described as "Of Kingsclere", Co. Hants, and the surname of her husband is curiously omitted, and it is a matter for decision who this "NICHOLAS ——— of the Parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks", could have been. There were NICHOLAS HIGGSSES of Thatcham prior to this date, NICHOLAS BUSHNELLS, etc. Were it to be proven that this "NICHOLAS ——— of the Parish of Thatcham" was one of the HIGGSSES of that place, this would be decidedly interesting in the matter of the mystery of the line of the descent of the HIGGS family of Thatcham at this time.





**PEDIGREE of HIGGS of NEWBURY, Co. BERKS.** Showing THEIR RELATIONSHIP BY  
 CONSANGUINITY TO Mrs. FRANCES WEST  
 WIFE OF JOHN WEST OF NEWBURY & LONDON  
 AND THE RIGHT OF SOME THEREBY TO CLAIM THE BENEFITS TO BE HAD UNDER THE FOUNDING OF A FUND  
 IN 1717, 1718 AND 1720 NOW KNOWN AS THE JOHN  
 AND FRANCES WEST CHARITY. Vide: History of Newbury  
 by W. MONEY, F.S.A. p. 330.







Another marriage between the families of HIGGS and BACHELOR took place in Newbury in 1725, when on 6 June of that year one WILLIAM HIGGS of the parish of Burvell (Burghfield), Co. Berks, married ELIZABETH BACHELOR of Kingsclere, Co. Hants, both parties in this marriage bearing the same names as the parties in the first marriage of a HIGGS in Newbury forty-four years previously. No baptisms of children of the second marriage between these families are recorded at Newbury, but of the first marriage we find the following baptisms recorded and the burials of those who died :

- 1682-3. 29 Jan. WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM HIGGS, by ELIZABETH BACHELOR, his wife, baptized.  
 1684. 17 Dec. ELIZABETH, daughter of above, baptized and buried 2 January, 1684-5.  
 1685. 17 Sept. JOHN, son of above, baptized and buried 21 October, 1691.  
 1688 9. 8 Feb. RICHARD, son of above, baptized.  
 1691. 29 June. BACHELOR, son of above, baptized.  
 1693. 7 Dec. WILLIAM, son of above, baptized. He was apparently the second son of this name, as the name of "WILLIAM HIGGS, a child buried 28 March, 1691-2", appears in the burial entries, and this burial no doubt refers to the former WILLIAM, son of this marriage.  
 1696. 9 Sept. MARY, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS and ELIZABETH BACHELOR, his wife, baptized and buried 18 March, 1697-8.  
 1699-1700. 6 Jan. JOSEPH, son of above, baptized, and he was buried 24 January of that same year.  
 1701. 4 July. BENJAMIN, son of above, baptized.  
 1705. 4 Dec. ANN, daughter of above, baptized.

In the next generation of HIGGSES in Newbury we find the marriages of—

- (1) JOHN HIGGS to AMY COOK, 17 December, 1712.  
 (2) BACHELOR HIGGS to MARY MORRILL, 29 October, 1716.

What JOHN HIGGS this was who married AMY COOK is not known. JOHN, the son of WILLIAM HIGGS and ELIZABETH BACHELOR, died at the age of six years, and apparently there was no second son of this name baptized, as in the case of their son WILLIAM.

Of the marriage of JOHN HIGGS and AMY COOK the following children were baptized in Newbury Parish Church :

1717. 17 Sept. ANN, daughter of JOHN and AMY HIGGS, baptized.  
 1719. 15 Nov. ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN and AMY HIGGS, baptized.  
 1721-2. 4 Mar. John, son of JOHN and AMY HIGGS, baptized.  
 1724-5. 14 Feb. RICHARD, son of JOHN and AMY HIGGS, baptized. He was married to ELIZABETH PURDUE 8 Feb. 1747-8.  
 1732. 28 May. JOSEPH and MARY, twin children of JOHN and AMY HIGGS, baptized.

Of the marriage of BACHELOR HIGGS and MARY MORRILL on 29 October, 1716, the following children were baptized in Newbury Parish Church :

1717. 6 Oct. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1718. 30 Oct. MARY.  
 1719-0. 8 Feb. SARAH.  
 1721. 24 Oct. SARAH (second daughter of this name).  
 1723. 12 July. JOHN (baptized when about one year old).  
 1723. 20 Sept. ELIZABETH.  
 1724. 21 Oct. JOSEPH.

BACHELOR HIGGS (or HIGS) was buried 23 May, 1768, he having outlived his wife some thirty-two years, as she was buried 21 November, 1736.





Of the marriage of RICHARD, son of JOHN HIGGS by AMY COOK, his wife, to ELIZABETH PURDUE, 8 February, 1747-8, the following children were baptized in Newbury Parish Church :

1748-9.	3 Jan.	ELIZABETH.
1752.	14 Nov.	JOHN. He was buried 29 May, 1753.
1753.	25 Dec.	JOHN, second son of the name. He, too, died and was buried 6 January, 1760.
1756.	25 Aug.	SARAH. She was buried 1 March, 1760-1.
1759.	22 July.	MARY.
1760.	25 Dec.	SARAH, second daughter of this name. She, too, was buried 20 April, 1763.

Another child of this marriage whose baptism is not recorded was ANN, who died and was buried 25 June, 1752.

ELIZABETH (the wife of RICHARD HIGGS) died in 1763, and was buried 6 December.

RICHARD HIGGS's death and burial not recorded. Unless RICHARD HIGGS married a second time and left issue, and his brother JOSEPH, the twin child of JOHN HIGGS and AMY COOK, his wife, married and had issue, it will be seen that the descendants of the marriage of JOHN HIGGS and AMY COOK died out in the male line. There were, however, recorded three children of a RICHARD and SARAH HIGGS baptized after the decease of ELIZABETH, the wife of RICHARD HIGGS in 1763, and in all probability RICHARD HIGGS married a second time in some other parish to SARAH, the mother of these children, who were baptized as follows :

1760-1.	3 Feb.	ELIZABETH.
1765-6.	27 Mar.	MARY. She was buried 27 January, 1767.
1769.	9 July.	RICHARD.

Against this possibility is the fact that he already had a daughter ELIZABETH, and a daughter MARY by his first wife if this RICHARD HIGGS was the same RICHARD who married ELIZABETH PURDUE 8 February, 1747.

Another marriage recorded at Newbury about this time was that of JOHN HIGGS and SARAH WINBOW (or WINBOULT), 9 April, 1750, and of this marriage the following children are mentioned as having been baptized :

1754-5.	16 Feb.	SARAH.
1762.	15 Oct.	ANN. She was buried 28 March, 1764-5.
1765.	9 April.	JOHN. He was buried 23 March, 1770-1.
1769.	9 July.	ANN, second daughter of the name, who also was buried 2 June, 1771.

This JOHN HIGGS may have been the son of JOHN HIGGS and AMY COOK, who was baptized 4 March, 1721-2, or he may have been the JOHN HIGGS, son of BATCHELOR HIGGS and MARY MORRILL, his wife, who was baptized "when about one year old", on 12 July, 1723.

Another JOHN HIGGS who was baptized at Newbury was JOHN, son of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS, 17 May, 1766. The marriage of his parents is not recorded at Newbury.

1747.	28 Dec.	RICHARD CHALK and AMY HIGGS were married at Newbury. (Possibly this AMY HIGGS was the widow of JOHN HIGGS.)
1676-7.	15 Jan.	JOHN HIGGS and ELIZABETH TIMBERLAND were married at Newbury.
1678-9.	2 Mai.	THOMAS DOD and ELIZABETH HIGGS of the Parish of Ashampstead, Co. Berks, were married at Newbury.





The following early baptismal entries are recorded :

1768.	24 Jan.	ELIZABETH, base-born daughter of LUCY HIGGS.
1774.	28 Dec.	THOMAS, base-born son of MARY HIGGS.
1774.	1 April.	JOHN, son of WILLIAM and SARAH (? HANNAH) HIGGS.
1777.	5 July.	BENJAMIN, son of WILLIAM and SARAH (? HANNAH) HIGGS.
1780-1.	20 Feb.	BENJAMIN, son of WILLIAM and SARAH (? HANNAH) HIGGS.
1793.	30 Mar.	ANN, daughter of JOSEPH and ELIZABETH HIGGS (parish paupers). ( <i>Note.</i> —There is no record of their marriage or of any other children baptized.)
1793.	28 July.	JOHN BENSON, son of JAMES and ANN HIGGS. (No other child of this marriage recorded.)
1799.	25 Aug.	JAMES, son of JAMES HIGGS and HANNAH HOLMES.
1800.	25 Dec.	AMY, daughter of JAMES HIGGS and HANNAH HOLMES.

The following early *Burials* not previously mentioned are recorded :

1682.	26 Dec.	YOUNG HIGGS.
1686.	26 July.	JOANE HIGGS.
1691-2.	28 Mar.	WILLIAM HIGGS (a child).
1694-5.	19 Feb.	JOHN HIGGS.
1699.	28 Nov.	YOUNG HIGGS.
1699-1700.	5 Jan.	TOBIAS HIGGS.
1703.	10 July.	"A child of WILLIAM HIGGS."
1714.	12 Oct.	"JOHN HIGGSES child."
1723.	14 Mar.	"A child of BATCHELOR HIGGS."
1731.	5 Nov.	"A child of BATCHELOR HIGGS."
1732.	5 June.	"A child of JOHN HIGGS."
1736.	29 Nov.	ANN HIGGS.
1741.	14 Feb.	WILLIAM HIGGS.

There is a Memorial Tablet in St. Mary's Church, Speenhamland (one of the three churches in connection with the town of Newbury) to—

**BENSON HIGGS**

Died 23rd April 1837

Aged 60 years

There is a Tombstone in the graveyard of the Wesleyan Church of Newbury as follows :

**BENJAMIN HIGGS**

Died July 17th 1850

in his 100th Year

also of

**ELIZABETH**

his wife

who died

June 11th 1851

Aged 79 years

(*Note.*—BENJAMIN HIGGS married twice, as the marriage of a BENJAMIN HIGGS and NANNY MILLS is recorded 1 December, 1777, and again BENJAMIN HIGGS (widower) and ELIZABETH LAWRENCE married 12 August, 1799. No issue of either marriage is recorded in the Parish Registers.)





*Marriages—cont.*

1795.	13 April.	JAMES HIGGS and HANNAH HOLMES.
1823.	18 Dec.	WILLIAM HIGGS (coachbuilder) and ELIZABETH WILLIS.
1836.	15 Aug.	WILLIAM HIGGS (coachbuilder and a widower) and HANNAH SMITH.

By ELIZABETH WILLIS, the first wife of WILLIAM HIGGS, the coachbuilder of Newbury, the following family were born and baptized :

1826.	17 Dec.	BENSON HIGGS.
1828.	30 Nov.	WILLIAM WILLIS HIGGS.
1830.	1 Aug.	JAMES HIGGS.
—	—	ANNE (the only daughter. She never married, but kept the home of her brother BENSON).

By HANNAH SMITH, the second wife of WILLIAM HIGGS, the coachbuilder of Newbury, the following family were born and baptized :

1836.	6 June.	JANE (her father described as a "bacon-factor" at her baptism).
1836 (?)	27 Nov.	ELLIOTT HIGGS.
1839.	20 Jan.	JOHN HIGGS (his father described as a "coachbuilder" at his baptism).
1843.	24 Sept.	JOSEPH HIGGS and MARY, twins (their father described as a bacon-factor at their baptism).
1846.	25 Jan.	TABITHA (her father described as a bacon-factor at her baptism).
1850.	31 Mar.	HENRY HIGGS (father described as bacon-factor).
1852.	29 Aug.	ALBERT HIGGS (father described as bacon-factor).
1854.	24 Sept.	SARAH. She migrated to America, and her subsequent history is unknown.

Through WILLIAM HIGGS, coachbuilder and afterwards bacon-factor and provision merchant of Newbury, marrying twice there was an estrangement between the two families. The first family all left Newbury and settled in Southampton, Co. Hants. BENSON HIGGS, the eldest son (baptized at Newbury 17 December, 1826), was apprenticed to the cabinet-making trade, but later joined his youngest brother in one of the largest provision businesses in Southampton. BENSON HIGGS did not marry, and died at Totton about the year 1894.

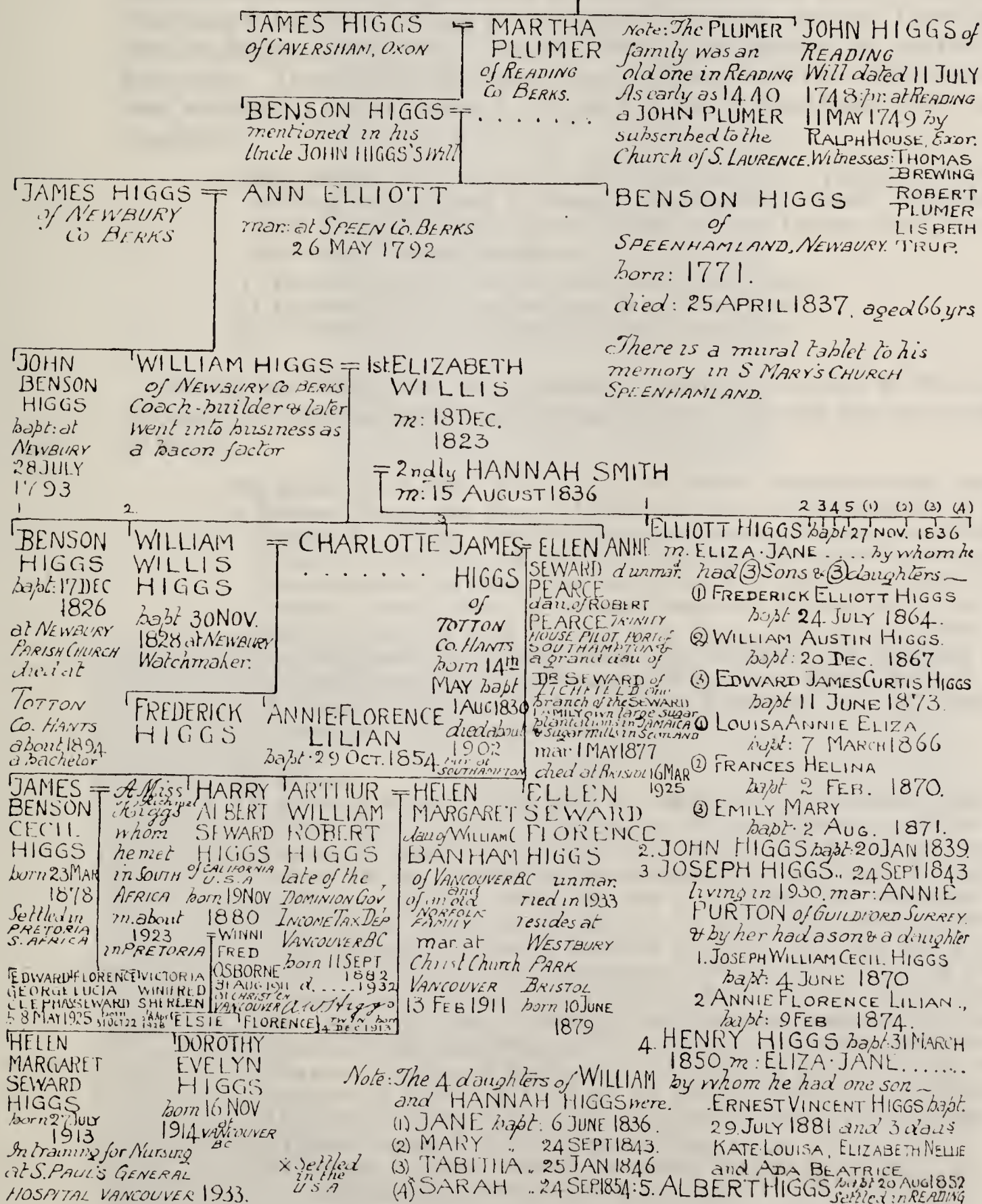
WILLIAM WILLIS HIGGS, the second son, who was baptized at Newbury 30 November, 1828, had a watch-maker's business at Shirley, a district of Southampton, for many years. By his wife CHARLOTTE he had two children, a son FREDERICK, who, it is said, died a bachelor, and a daughter ANNIE FLORENCE LILIAN, who was baptized at Newbury 29 October, 1854.

JAMES HIGGS, the youngest son of WILLIAM HIGGS, the coachbuilder, and later provision merchant, of Newbury, born 14 May, 1830, and baptized at Newbury Parish Church 1 August of that year, was apprenticed to ALFRED BURLING & SON, provision merchants of Southampton, Co. Hants, on 3 July, 1844, at the age of fourteen years. He later went into this business for himself and was joined by his eldest brother, BENSON HIGGS, and their business became one of the largest in Southampton. They later acquired an old-established grocery and bakery business at Totton, five miles from Southampton. It was on 1 May, 1877, that JAMES HIGGS married ELLEN SEWARD PEARCE, at Pear Tree Green Chapel, Woolston, Co. Hants. She was the daughter of ROBERT PEARCE, Trinity Pilot of the Port of Southampton, and a grand-daughter of Dr. SEWARD of Lichfield, Co. Stafford. It is worthy of note that a SEWARD was Prebendary of Lichfield Cathedral from 1708 to 1790, and of interest to remember that a member





of . . . HIGGS T . . .







of the HIGGS family, the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, was Dean of that ancient edifice from 1638 until 1643, during which years he spent much of his personal means in the adornment of this Cathedral, which was doomed to destruction by the forces of the Parliament. One branch of the SEWARD family owned large sugar plantations in Jamaica and sugar mills in Scotland. ROBERT PEARCE, before becoming a Trinity Pilot, was offered a settlement in Jamaica upon one of his visits to that island, but did not accept. The PEARCE family had a long record of service as naval officers. Three grandsons of ROBERT PEARCE are at present Trinity Pilots at Southampton, as was their father for fifty years. JAMES HIGGS died about 1902, and was buried at Southampton. By his wife, who died at Bristol 16 March, 1925, he had the following family, three sons and one daughter :

1. JAMES BENSON CECIL HIGGS, the eldest son, was born 23 March, 1878, and baptized at Eling Parish Church, Co. Hants. He emigrated to South Africa about the year 1905, where he married a Miss RICHMEL HIGGS in Pretoria about 1923, and by her has one son and two daughters :

1. EDWARD GEORGE CLEPHAS HIGGS, born 8 May, 1925.
- (1) FLORENCE LUCIA SEWARD, born 31 October, 1922.
- (3) VICTORIA WINIFRED SHEREEN, born 28 April, 1928.

During the World War JAMES BENSON CECIL HIGGS served in the German East African Campaign, and contracted blackwater fever, which left him in a very poor state of health.

2. The second son of JAMES HIGGS by ELLEN SEWARD PEARCE, his wife, HARRY ALBERT SEWARD HIGGS, was born 19 November, 1880, and was baptized at Eling Parish Church, Co. Hants. He was trained as a teacher, but one year prior to the termination of the South African War he joined the South African Constabulary, and after completing his term of five years he left South Africa and settled in Vancouver, British Columbia, where he remained until after the outbreak of the World War, when he joined the 231st Batt. C.E.F. in March, 1916, and saw active service until the termination of the war, being twice wounded. He now lives at Berkeley, California, where he is in the employ of the Union Pacific Railway. He married WINNIFRED OSBORNE, at Christ Church, Vancouver, B.C., 31 August, 1911, and 4 December, 1913, twin girls were born :

- (1) ELSIE.
- (2) FLORRIE.

3. The third son of JAMES HIGGS and ELLEN SEWARD PEARCE, his wife, ARTHUR WILLIAM ROBERT HIGGS, was born 11 September, 1882, and likewise baptized at Eling Parish Church, Co. Hants. He emigrated to Canada in March, 1904, and settled at Vancouver, British Columbia, in November of that year, where he resided until his decease in 1932. He was on the staff of the Dominion Government Income Tax Department. During the World War he enlisted for overseas service with the 196th Western Universities Battalion in March, 1916, but was prevented from active service on account of medical unfitness. He married at Christ Church, Vancouver, 13 February, 1911, HELEN MARGARET, the eldest daughter of Mr. WILLIAM C. BANHAM, of Norwich (who came to Canada in 1906 and resided in Vancouver until his death), by HELEN APPLETON, his wife, and granddaughter of CHARLES BANHAM, of Haddiscoe, Co. Norfolk, by ELLEN TAYLOR, his wife. She was born at New Cross, Co. Kent, 16 January, 1889. ARTHUR WILLIAM ROBERT HIGGS died in 1932. There have been two daughters of this marriage, namely :

- (1) HELEN MARGARET SEWARD, born 27 July, 1913.
- (2) DOROTHY EVELYN, born 16 November, 1914.

Both daughters were born in Vancouver.

The only daughter of JAMES HIGGS by ELLEN SEWARD PEARCE, his wife, was named ELLEN SEWARD FLORENCE. She was born 10 June, 1879, and baptized at Eling Parish Church, Co. Hants. She was a teacher in the Southampton public schools for a number









JAMES HIGGS OF TOTTON AND SOUTHAMPTON, CO. HANTS, 1830-1902,  
YOUNGEST SON OF THE FIRST MARRIAGE OF WILLIAM HIGGS  
OF NEWBURY, BERKS.



ARTHUR WILLIAM ROBERT HIGGS OF VANCOUVER, B.C., AND HELEN MARGARET,  
HIS WIFE, DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM C. BANHAM OF VANCOUVER.





of years. She is unmarried, and resides at Westbury Park, near Bristol, England, where she is still engaged in the same profession.

Such is the account of the first family of WILLIAM HIGGS of Newbury by ELIZABETH WILLIS, his wife.

Returning to the subsequent history of the second family of WILLIAM HIGGS of Newbury by HANNAH SMITH, his wife, it is in part as follows :

ELLIOTT HIGGS, the eldest son (baptized at Newbury 27 November, 1836 ?), was in business as a watchmaker in Newbury. By his wife ELIZABETH JANE he had three sons and three daughters :

1. FREDERICK ELLIOTT HIGGS, baptized 24 July, 1864.
2. WILLIAM AUSTIN HIGGS, baptized 20 December, 1867.
3. EDWARD JAMES CURTIS HIGGS, baptized 11 June, 1873.
- (1) LOUISA ANNIE ELIZA, baptized 7 March, 1866.
- (2) FRANCES HELENA, baptized 2 February, 1870.
- (3) EMILY MARY, baptized 2 August, 1871.

JOSEPH HIGGS, the third son of WILLIAM HIGGS by HANNAH SMITH, though born in 1843, is still living (1930), and states that his father relinquished the coachbuilding business and became a bacon-factor in a large way of business. JOSEPH HIGGS married ANNIS PURTON of Guildford, Co. Surrey, and by her has issue a son and a daughter :

1. JOSEPH WILLIAM CECIL HIGGS, baptized 4 June, 1870.
  - (1) ANNIE FLORENCE LILIAN, baptized 9 February, 1874.
- Both living in 1930.

HENRY HIGGS, the fourth son of WILLIAM HIGGS, by HANNAH SMITH, was in business as a watchmaker. He married and has issue one son and three daughters :

1. ERNEST VINCENT HIGGS, baptized 29 July, 1881 (twin with his sister ADA BEATRICE).
- (1) KATE LOUISA, baptized 11 August, 1876.
- (2) ELIZABETH NELLIE, baptized 8 May, 1878.
- (3) ADA BEATRICE, baptized 29 July, 1881.

A JOHN HIGGS of Newbury, a descendant of WILLIAM HIGGS who married ELIZABETH BACHELOR 25 February, 1681 (*vide* Pedigree of HIGGS Family of Newbury), was the owner of a paper mill in this town in the early part of the nineteenth century. He married ELIZABETH FARR, of Whitchurch, Co. Hants, and by her had two sons, one of whom died. The surviving son, THOMAS HIGGS, married MARY GARLICK 18 December, 1847, and by her had a family of eight sons and one daughter. THOMAS HIGGS carried on his father's paper mill for some years, but the mill being water-driven, some dispute arose over water rights, and he was compelled to relinquish the old business. He then set up in business as a stationer. The names of his children are as follows :

1. THOMAS FARR HIGGS.
2. JOHN HIGGS.
3. WILLIAM HENRY HIGGS.
4. WALTER HIGGS.
5. FREDERICK HIGGS.
6. HUBERT HIGGS.
7. ARTHUR HIGGS.
8. BRICE EDWARD HIGGS.

- (1) ELIZABETH ANN, the only daughter of THOMAS and MARY HIGGS, is still living in Newbury, and is in receipt of a pension from Christ's Hospital. The fact that she is in receipt of this pension is proof that she is one of the descendants of the marriage of BACHELOR HIGGS and MARY MORRILL (29 October 1716), and through





MARY MORRILL is related to JOHN WEST and FRANCES his wife, who founded this Newbury Charity in 1717. (For full particulars regarding this Charity see HIGGS Family of Speen, Co. Berks.)

(*Note.*—The HIGGS family of Speen and the HIGGS family of Newbury were closely related.)

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF PURLEY.

(*Note.*—The Registers of this Parish do not commence until 1662.)

#### *Marriages :*

1746. 12 Oct. WILLIAM HIGGS of Basildon, Co. Berks, and MARY SAWYER of Mapledurham, Co. Oxford.

(*Note.*—This is the only marriage of any HIGGS recorded here between 1662 and 1840. 'Phillimore's Parish Registers', Vol. II, fol. 112.

#### *Baptisms (not examined).*

#### *Burials :*

1669. GEORGE HIGGS (*vide* 'Admon. Berks. Act', Bk. III, fo. 31).  
 1684. JAMES, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1708. GRIFFIN HIGGS.  
 1716. MARTHA, daughter of DOROTHY HIGGS, widow.  
 1725. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1728. SUSAN HIGGS.  
 1730. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1742. DOROTHY HIGGS.  
 1743. DOROTHY HIGGS.

These HIGGSES are undoubtedly a branch of the South Stoke HIGGS Family.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF READING.

#### ST. MARY'S CHURCH, READING.

#### *Marriages, 1605-1809 (these Registers commence in 1538) :*

1605. 19 Dec. GEORGE HIGGES and AGNES UTTERIDGE.  
 1620. 21 Jan. JOHN HIGGS and KATHERINE PARRE.  
 1622. 19 May. RICHARD BENNET and ANNE HIGGS.  
 1643. 29 Jan. ROBERT FRUIN and MARGARET HIGGS.  
 1683. 27 Nov. HENRY HIGGS and ELIZABETH COOPER.  
 1684. 19 July. WILLIAM HIGGS and SEWSAN ELSLEY.  
 1696. 24 Dec. OWEN HIGGS and JANE ADAMS, both of Pangbourne.  
 1700. 26 Dec. JOHN HIGGS and MARY RANCE, both of Barkham.  
 1708. 5 April. WILLIAM DUE and ANNE HIGGS.  
 1709. 24 April. JOHN WRIGHT of Mapledurham and MARY HIGGS of Purley.  
 1712. 21 Oct. JOHN KNAP and ELIZABETH HIGGS, both of Purley, by licence.  
 1713. 5 July. JOHN KESSEL of Tylehurst and ANN HIGGS of St. Mary's.  
 1715. 12 Dec. FRANCIS HIGGS and DEBORAH KNOTTS (licence).  
 1718. 4 Nov. JOHN WHITE and HANNA HIGGS, both of St. Mary's, by licence.  
 1724. 2 Sept. RICHARD SUTTON and ELIZABETH HIGGS.  
 1730. 28 Feb. JOHN HIGGS and MARY MARLOW.  
 1736. 7 June. HENRY HALL and MARY HIGGS of Sulhampstead Bannister, by licence.  
 1745. 25 Aug. HENRY SLAWTER of Caversham, Oxon, and ANN HIGGS.  
 1746. 3 April. EDWARD HIGGS and ANN BROWNE.  
 1746. 8 Nov. FRANCIS HIGGS and ELIZABETH MARY.  
 1762. 16 May. HENRY MEERS and MARY HIGGS (licence).  
 1766. 20 May. GEORGE HIGGS and ANNE WARD (by licence).





1770.	5 Feb.	JOSEPH COAL and MARY HIGGS.
1774.	31 Oct.	PLANNER COOPER and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1783.	21 Aug.	EDWARD OSBORN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1808.	14 Aug.	WILLIAM HIGG and ANNE LEAVER.
1809.	1 June.	ROBERT CARTER and SUSANNAH HIGGS.

*Baptisms, 1538-1812 :*

1606.	14 Dec.	MARGARET, daughter of GEORGE HIGGS.
1617/18.	18 Feb.	HENRI, son of GEORGE HIGGS (born at Southcott).
1619.	18 April.	JOHN, son of GEORGE HIGGS.
1620.	18 Oct.	WILLIAM, son of GEORGE HIGGS.
1621/22.	7 Mar.	MARGARET, daughter of GEORGE HIGGS.
1623.	7 Sept.	ANNE, daughter of GEORGE HIGGS.
1623.	20 April.	WILLIAM, son of JOHN HIGGS.
1625.	28 Sept.	RICHARD, son of GEORGE HIGGS.
1627.	31 Oct.	JOHN, son of GEORGE HIGGS.
1725/26.	27 Jan.	WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1731/32.	8 Mar.	MARY, daughter of JOHN and MARY HIGGS.
1736.	5 Oct.	JOHN, son of JOHN and MARY HIGGS.
1740.	23 June.	MARY, daughter of JOHN and MARY HIGGS.
1783.	21 Feb.	CHARLOTTE, daughter of WILLIAM SIMMONDS and JANE HIGGS, registered here, being an inhabitant, baptized at St. Lawrence Church.
1784.	27 Dec.	HENRY, son of WILLIAM SIMMONDS and JANE HIGGS.
1786.	8 Dec.	WILLIAM JAMES, son of WILLIAM SIMMONDS and JANE HIGGS.
1788.	20 Aug.	HARVEY, son of WILLIAM SIMMONDS and JANE HIGGS.
1789.	11 Mar.	ANNE, daughter of JAMES and JANE HIGGS.
1790.	11 June.	JANE, daughter of WILLIAM SIMMONDS and JANE HIGGS.
1792.	6 Jan.	JOHN, son of WILLIAM SIMMONDS and JANE HIGGS.
1793.	21 May.	JAMES, son of WILLIAM SIMMONDS and JANE HIGGS.
1801.	22 Aug.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM and SARAH HIGGS.
1804.	17 Feb.	CHARLOTTE, daughter of WILLIAM and SARAH HIGGS.
1805.	13 Oct.	MARY ANNE, daughter of WILLIAM and SARAH HIGGS.
1809.	18 June.	CHARLES, son of WILLIAM and SARAH HIGGS.
1812.	26 Jan.	LOUISA, daughter of WILLIAM and SARAH HIGGS.

*Burials, 1538-1812 :*

1574.	30 April.	FRANCIS HIGGS.
1615.	20 Mar.	JOHN HIGGES, Gentleman, died in the gaol, buried at Waltham.
1618.	4 April.	HENRI, son of GEORGE HIGGES.
1626.	4 May.	JOHN HIGGES.
1626.	13 May.	KATHERINE, wife of JOHN HIGGES.
1632.	21 April.	GEORGE HIGGES of Southcot (butler).
1657.	27 Aug.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1661.	18 Aug.	ANN HIGGES.
1670.	31 Aug.	JOHN HIGGS, and his wife, servants to ye Lady Blagrave.
1676.	18 May.	ALICE HIGGS (widow).
1678.	7 April.	JOHN, son of JOHN HIGGS.
1684.	30 Aug.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1731.	13 Mar.	MARY HIGGS.
1733.	18 Aug.	MARTHA HIGGES.
1739.	12 June.	JOHN HIGGES (a child).
1740.	30 June.	MARY HIGGS (a child).
1746.	6 Aug.	DEBORAH HIGGS.
1747.	27 Mar.	JONE HIGGS.
1748.	17 July.	JOHN HIGGS.
1750.	13 June.	ANN HIGGS.
1755.	12 Jan.	ANN HIGGS.
1757.	25 Jan.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1759.	18 May.	JOHN HIGGS.





1768. 11 Sept. JAMES HIGGS.  
 1776. 4 Feb. EDWARD HIGGS.  
 1786. 6 Jan. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1791. 23 Oct. THOMAS HIGGS.  
 1794. 24 Oct. ANN HIGGS.

## ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH REGISTERS, READING, BERKS.

## Marriages, 1605-1788:

1606. ANTHONY HIGGS to ———.  
 1675. SAMUEL HIGGS to ———.  
 1710. WILLIAM HIGGS to ———.  
 1726. RICHARD HIGGS of Hurst to ———.  
 1739. THOMAS HIGGS to ———.  
 1788. JAMES HIGGS to ———.

## PEDIGREE of HIGGS of READING &amp; HURST, Co. BERKS.

Showing Marriage Alliance with the families of

GODDARD of Peppard, Co. MAY of Sonning Berks.  
 RICHARDS of Reading, Berks. SIMONDS of Arborfield  
 VAUX of Harefield, Middlesex.

GEORGE HIGGS, a Sporting Berkshire Farmer  
 He ran a Coach from his stables between  
 READING & LONDON but later ran it between  
 OXFORD & LONDON driving his own teams & he  
 held the record for the fastest coach on the  
 road. He made considerable money driving the  
 Undergraduates to & from LONDON. He died young &  
 is said to have been buried at St. Marylebone.

ELIZABETH dau. of ROBERT VAUX, Esquire  
 of Harefield, Co. Middlesex.

She first met GEORGE HIGGS as the occupant  
 of the Box-seat of his Coach. She so fascina-  
 ted him that he completely fell in love  
 & this being mutual he subsequently had to  
 secure her by abduction from HAREFIELD with pistols  
 She lived in hiding with him in MARYLEBONE & died in  
 child birth

WILLIAM SIMONDS HIGGS, Esquire F.R.S., F.S.A.  
 of HAREFIELD, ST. JOHN'S WOOD, LONDON  
 " HURST & READING, Co. BERKS.  
 born: in MARYLEBONE, LONDON in 1759.  
 died: 13 Oct. 1829 aged 70.  
 bur.: at HURST Co. BERKS.  
 He always kept a pack of hounds.

JANE dau. of . . . . . SIMONDS  
 of ARBORFIELD BERKS. born 1750, died 3 Oct. 1849  
 at 90.

Note: Silhouette portraits of JANE HIGGS  
 née SIMONDS & of her mother are  
 in the possession of LEONARD MORGAN MAY,  
 the gt.-gt. & the gt.-gt.-gt. grandson.

GEORGE HIGGS Esquire  
 of ELM LODGE READING Co. BERKS.  
 born 1782 bapt. at SONNING (1782)  
 Mayor of READING 1826  
 In business as a farmer Jun 1830  
 he was a director of the BERKS  
 GLOUCESTERSHIRE & PROVINCIAL  
 FIRE INSURANCE Co of READING &  
 CHELTENHAM Died 7 Oct 1860  
 bur. at PEPPARD, OXON.

MARY ANN  
 dau of LUKE  
 GODDARD  
 of Peppard by  
 RUTH his wife  
 born 1791.  
 died 14 JULY 1867  
 bur. at PEPPARD  
 OXON.

HENRY WILLIAM HARVEY  
 HIGGS HIGGS or  
 bapt. at bapt. at HERVEY  
 of St. Mary's St. Mary's HIGGS  
 Ch READING Ch READING bapt. at  
 born 1791. 27 DEC 8 DEC. St. Mary's  
 died 14 JULY 1867 1784. 1786. Ch READING  
 bur. at PEPPARD  
 OXON.

JOHN JAMES CHARLOTTE  
 HIGGS HIGGS bapt. at  
 bapt. at bapt. at St. LAWRENCE  
 St. Mary's St. Mary's Ch. but also  
 Ch READING Church entered at  
 6 JAN READING St. Mary's Ch.  
 1792 21 MAY READING  
 1793 "being an  
 21 FEB 1783  
 died 14 FEB  
 1825 aged  
 12 bur. at  
 HURST

WALTER MAY, Esquire  
 of SONNING Co. BERKS.

buried at EARLEY BERKS.

MARY ANN HIGGS  
 BETH b. 1813  
 died d. 26 DEC  
 1 SEPT 1832  
 1828

ELIZA HARRIOT  
 BETH b. 1813  
 died d. 26 DEC  
 1 SEPT 1832  
 1828

REV. DR. CHARLES  
 HIGGS STRICKLAND  
 died 13 OCT.  
 1823(?)  
 bur. at  
 HURST  
 Co. BERKS.

MORGAN MAY, Esquire  
 born at "Grovelands"  
 READING Co. BERKS.

SARAH CHARLOTTE  
 dau. of The Rev. THOMAS LYON  
 of Co. TIPPERARY, IRELAND

mar.: at St. George's Church, Hanover Square  
 LONDON.  
 died: 7 MAY 1931.

(2) (3)  
 JANE HARRIET JOHN  
 bapt. HIGGS RICHARDS  
 11 JUNE Esquire,  
 1790  
 at St. Mary's  
 Ch READING  
 coroner for Berkshire  
 1800-1813. son of  
 RICHARD RICHARDS  
 (Mayor of READING 1802)  
 gr. grandson of SILVESTER  
 RICHARDS (ob. 1751) and  
 Great-grandson of -  
 RICHARD RICHARDS  
 thrice Mayor of READING  
 1721, 1727 & 1738

LEONARD MORGAN MAY  
 Esquire, Barrister at Law  
 of 11 Stone Buildings Lincoln's Inn  
 & 60 Shooter's Hill Road BLACKHEATH, Co. KENT  
 in whose possession are - (1) An oil portrait of  
 WILLIAM SIMONDS HIGGS F.R.S., F.S.A. (2) The writing  
 desk & silver inkstand of WILLIAM SIMONDS HIGGS  
 & (3) A portrait of HARVEY HIGGS

JOHN RICHARDS  
 the younger, of READING  
 F.S.A.

ELIZABETH  
 RICHARDS MAY

FANNY  
 dau. of  
 JOHN  
 MAY of  
 CAVERSHAM  
 OXON.





### THE HIGGES FAMILY OF SONNING.

Sonning is a beautiful Berkshire village, lying between Caversham and Shiplake. At an early date a HIGGS family was settled here. From the Will of RICHARD HIGGES of Erlye, in this parish, dated 5 April, 1602, and proved in the P.C.C. 20 April of that year ("Montague", fo. 25), and from the parish registers, some information as to this family can be gathered. This RICHARD HIGGES was buried in Sonning Parish Church, 7 April, 1602, and his wife ELIZABETH (who was sole executrix of his Will) was likewise interred there 8 September, 1605.

To his son WILLIAM HIGGES, RICHARD left his lands and a tenement called "Kembers" in Swallowfield, Co. Berks, and land in other places in both Berkshire and Wiltshire, which he had purchased from one THOMAS BURRINGTON (BURYTON or BERRINGTON), which strongly suggests that this HIGGS family was closely related to those in South Stoke, Oxon. and Streatley, Co. Berks, for the family of BURRINGTON, or BERINGTON, which was an ancient family in Hereford and Stoke Lacy, intermarried with the family of BARTON of Weobley, Co. Hereford, through which family the HIGGES in South Stoke became possessed of "Barre Place" and its lands in that place. In fact, MARGARET, the wife of ROBERT BERYTON, or BERINGTON, of Hereford Este, was the sister of HARRY BARTON of Streatley, the grandfather of MARY BARTON, who married NICHOLAS HIGGES of South Stoke, Oxon (*vide* Pedigree of Barton, Chapter I). THOMAS BURITON, Gent., of Streatley was son of WILLIAM BURITON or BERINGTON, Mayor of Reading in 1547, who was first cousin of Griffin BARTON, Gent., of "Barre Place", South Stoke. In all probability, therefore, this RICHARD HIGGES of Sonning was one of the numerous family of sons born to NICHOLAS HIGGES of South Stoke by MARY BARTON his wife. WILLIAM, son of RICHARD HIGGES of Erlye (Yeoman), married ANNE, the daughter of ROBERT COOPER and ELLEN SIEFFORD, his wife, 21 September, 1629 (she was baptized at Sonning 3 November, 1605). Whether this family of COOPER was the same family into which the HIGGS family of Bradfield, Berks, had married is not certain, but it is a fact worthy of note that WILLIAM HIGGS of Bradfield married one ALICE COOPER 8 May, 1572, at Bradfield, and likewise a JOHN HIGGS of Bradfield married ANNE COOPER 6 July, 1573. Another HIGGS-COOPER alliance is also recorded in the registers of St. Mary's, Reading, Co. Berks, when HENRY HIGGS married ELIZABETH COOPER 27 November, 1683. WILLIAM HIGGES, who inherited "Kembers" in Swallowfield, and ANNE COOPER, his wife, were the probable ancestors of NICHOLAS HIGGES of Swallowfield, who died there in 1665.

RICHARD and ELIZABETH HIGGES of Erlye, in Sonning, had another son, THOMAS HIGGES, who inherited his father's lands in that place, and was the father of RICHARD and THOMAS HIGGS, twin sons born in 1596, and baptized 3 April and 6 March respectively in that year at Sonning Parish Church. RICHARD and ELIZABETH HIGGES had two daughters, one MARY, who married 10 June, 1593, GARRARD LYTTON, and ELIZABETH, who married WILLIAM WHATE (or WHEATE). There was probably a close relationship between the HIGGES family of Sonning and the family settled at Sulhampstead Abbots, Co. Berks, as RICHARD HIGGES of that place married ELIZABETH WHEATE, and the HIGGS family of Sulhampstead Abbots were related to the HIGGS family of Streatley, Co. Berks.

The following is a list of HIGGS entries recorded in the Parish Registers of Sonning which commence in 1592 :

#### SONNING PARISH REGISTERS, CO. BERKS.

##### Marriages :

1593.	10 June.	MARY HIGGES and GERARD LYTTON of LITTEN.
1615.	19 June.	JANE HIGGES and ROBERT WESTMERLAND.
1629.	21 Sept.	WILLIAM HIGGES and ANNE COOPER.





1680.	14 Oct.	ANNE HIGGES (widow) and JOHN SAVAGE.
1708.	20 April.	RICHARD HIGGS and MARGARET SHEPHERD.
1716.	1 Jan.	JOHN HIGGS and JANE MILOME (both of Hurst).
1723.	12 Oct.	MARY HIGGS and EPHRAIM SMITH (both of Hurst).
1730.	7 July.	JOHN HIGGS and ELIZABETH COHN BROWN.
1742.	14 Aug.	GEORGE HIGGS and HANNAH HIGGS of Dorchester.
1788.	23 Mar.	EDWARD HIGGS and ANN WHITE (of Hurst).

*Baptisms :*

1596.	3 April.	RICHARD, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1596.	6 Mar.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1601.	12 June.	ELIZABETH, daughter of THOMAS HIGGES.
1605.	22 Dec.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1612.	14 Mar.	JOHN, son of JOHN HIGGES.
1615.	10 Mar.	ELLENOR, daughter of JOHN HIGGES.
1620.	24 Aug.	THOMAS and MARIE, son and daughter of RICHARD HIGGES.
1623.	25 Sept.	RICHARD, son of RICHARD HIGGES.
1709.	13 Nov.	WILLIAM, son of RICHARD HIGGS.
1739.	11 June.	ELIZABETH, daughter of BARTHOLOMEW HIGGS and ANN, his wife.
1742.	30 June.	GEORGE, son of RICHARD and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1744.	1 July.	JAMES, son of RICHARD and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1753.	31 May.	JOHN and MARTHA, son and daughter of ANNE HIGGS (base-born).
1782.	7 Feb.	GEORGE, son of WILLIAM and JANE HIGGS.
1790.	3 Jan.	JAMES, son of EDWARD and ANN HIGGS.
1792.	8 July.	ANNE, daughter of EDWARD and ANN HIGGS.

*Burials :*

1602.	7 April.	RICHARD HIGGES.
1605.	8 Sept.	ELIZABETH HIGGES (widow).
1607.	12 July.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1619.	20 Sept.	CHRISTIAN HIGGES (widow).
1734.	2 Dec.	JOHNSON, son of RICHARD HIGGS.
1737.	12 Nov.	ANN, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS.
1740.	29 May.	DOROTHY, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS.
1753.	23 JUNE.	JOHN and " ANNE " ( <i>sic</i> ), son and daughter of ANNE HIGGS (base).

**THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SPARSHOLT.**

1559-1812. Only one HIGGS marriage is found in the Register of Marriages at Sparsholt Parish Church between these dates, namely :

1616.	7 Oct.	THOMAS WALTER and MARTHA HIGGS.
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**THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SPEEN.** (*Vide* Pedigree of HIGGS Family of Newbury.)

The little village of Speen came into prominence during the Civil War. It lies to the North-west of Newbury about one mile, and likewise about one mile from the village of Shaw, and is also about four miles to the west of Thatcham. It was here on 16 October, 1644, that PRINCE MAURICE OF BOHEMIA, commanding a brigade of Cornish Horse and





two brigades of foot and artillery, was posted during the second Battle of Newbury. The parish register here begins in 1629. No thorough search of these registers has been made for HIGGS entries, but there was a family of the name settled in this parish in the early part of the eighteenth century, and in the latter end of the seventeenth century ELIZABETH HIGGS, a sister of JOHN HIGGS, and also of WILLIAM HIGGS of Newbury, married WILLIAM HEAD of Speen at Thatcham, 19 January, 1690 (*vide* Thatcham Parish Register, also 'Arch. Berks', Will of JOHN HIGGS of Newbury, proved by ELIZABETH, his widow, 3 November, 1691, and dated 22 September of that year). The marriage of a JOHN HIGGS took place at Speen in 1747, of a JAMES HIGGS in 1792, and of a WILLIAM HIGGS in 1794. There can be little doubt that these HIGGSES were related to those in Newbury. In connection with Newbury there is a Charity known as that of JOHN and FRANCES WEST, 1717, the details of which Charity are given in Money's 'History of Newbury' (1887), fo. 330, and are given in this work because the descendants of one WILLIAM HIGGS of Speen—through his kinship with the founders of this Charity—are entitled, under circumstances of extreme poverty, to a *free education and a small pension* in connection with the Bluecoat School (otherwise Christ's Hospital, London), and this kinship is clearly shown from the claim made by one WILLIAM HIGGS of the parish of St. Lawrence in Reading in 1825.

CHARITY OF JOHN AND FRANCES WEST OF NEWBURY, CO. BERKS, 1717.

"JOHN WEST & FRANCES, his wife, by deed dated 1717, gave to the poor of the Parish of Newbury (three of whom must have been inhabitants within thirty years prior to the date of the grant) £5 each from certain houses and lands vested in the Corporation of the City of London, Governors of Christ's, Bethlehem, and Bridewell Hospitals, with preference to the kindred of the said JOHN and FRANCES WEST."

Also by deed bearing date 1718:

"To poor blind people £5 per annum each, with preference to their kindred, and next to the blind of Reading and Newbury, vested in the Clothworkers' Company of London".

Also by deed bearing date 1720:

"For maintaining and presentations of children to Christ's Hospital, London, more than three-fourths to be boys £10 per annum each, and for apprenticing the boys £20 each; and the girls £5 each, with preference to their kindred. Vested in the Governors of Christ's Hospital."

When a vacancy occurs the parish is regularly informed of it from Christ's Hospital; notice is then given of a parish vestry, to be held on the Monday "se'nnight" after the notice for the purpose of filling up the vacancy; and the election takes place accordingly by the vote of the vestry.

THE CLAIM OF KINSHIP ESTABLISHED BY ONE WILLIAM HIGGS, LATE OF SPEEN, AND AFTERWARDS OF THE PARISH OF ST. LAWRENCE, READING, TO THE ABOVE CHARITY IN 1825.

"FRANCES STEWARD (whose maiden name was COX, late mother of Mrs. FRANCES WEST) had a brother ALEXANDER COX, which said ALEXANDER, by DOROTHY, his wife, had issue BRIDGET, which said BRIDGET, by WILLIAM CRABB, had issue ELEANOR, which said ELEANOR by JOSEPH MORRILL, had issue MARY, who married BACHELOR HIGGS and had issue WILLIAM, who by HANNAH, his wife, had issue WILLIAM HIGGS, who is the present (1825) humble petitioner."

Sworn at the Borough of Newbury in the county of Berks, before A. SLOELOCK, Esq., J.P., 21 February, 1825.

(Signed) WILLIAM HIGGS.

This WILLIAM HIGGS was very greatly reduced in circumstances, as will be seen from the following record when he made his application for assistance from the aforesaid Charity.





*"Borough of Newbury, Co. Berks :*

"TO WIT: THOMAS ATTWICKS of the Parish of Speen, in the County aforesaid Tailor; maketh Oath that the Certificate of Age of WILLIAM HIGGS late of the Parish aforesaid, now of the Parish of St. Lawrence, Reading, in the county of Berks aforesaid, hereunto annexed is a just and true certificate and duly signed by several persons who have subscribed their names thereto and the said WILLIAM HIGGS also maketh Oath that he this Deponent is related by consanguinity to Mrs. FRANCES WEST deceased who was the wife of JOHN WEST, deceased, late of London, Gentleman, in such manner as by the Pedigree (or account of same hereunto also annexed) appears as Deponent WILLIAM HIGGS verily believes and the said Deponent saith that he, the said WILLIAM HIGGS, is not at this time seized or possessed of any real or personal Estate of the value of Twenty pounds per annum, neither does any such Estate to him belong."

"84" Newbury, Berks—*Baptisms*, December, 1772 :

"29" WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS.

"The above is an exact copy of Baptism belonging to this Parish taken this 21st day of February One thousand eight hundred and twenty-five by me—

"JAMES ROE, Rector of Speen, Berks."

"Witnesses THOMAS ATTWICKS,  
SAMUEL PURDUE, parish clerk."

*Marriages*, 1794 :

WILLIAM HIGGS and SARAH ATTWICKES, July 7th.

"The above is an exact copy from the Register belonging to the Parish of Speen taken this eighteenth day of March One thousand, eight hundred and twenty five by me—

"T. W. COTTON, Officiating Minister."

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF STREATLEY.

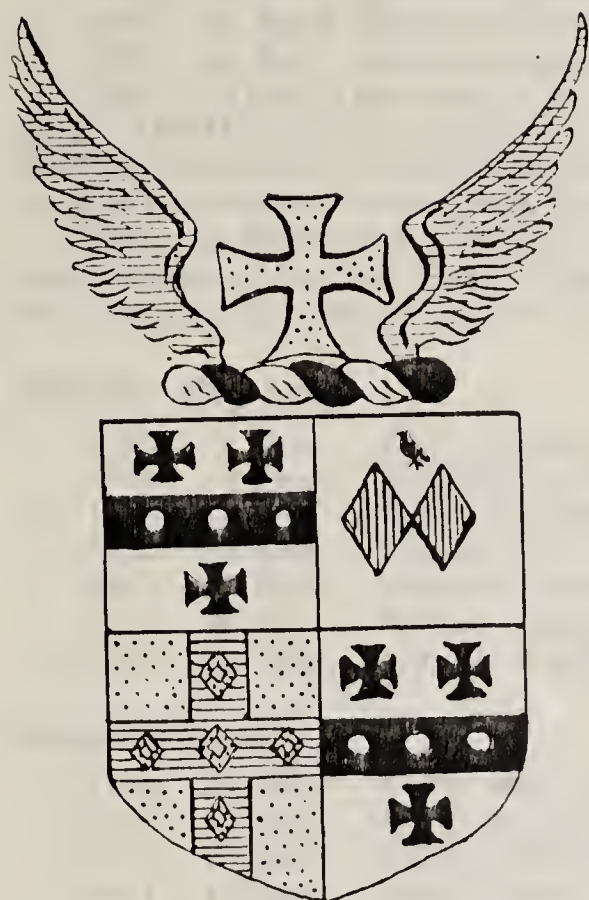
Streatley is a village situated on the Berkshire bank of the River Thames opposite Goring on the Oxford side. Families of HIGGES were settled here from Basildon, Berks, and South Stoke, Oxon, two miles further up the river at an early date. A complete search has not been made through the parish registers, but the following notes gathered from wills and the parish registers may prove of interest and value :

As early as, and before, 1573 RICHARD HIGGE was settled at Westridge in this parish, for he was buried at Streatley in that year. From his will he was a cousin of JOHN CLARKE of Ardington, Co. Berks (*vide* Berks Will, 1573 F., fo. 352). The CLARKES of Ardington were an old armorial family in Berkshire and quartered in their arms those of CHAMPENEY and PIKEMAN of Basildon, JOHN CLARKE of Basildon marrying ELIZABETH, an heiress of the family of CHAMPENEY, whilst his grandson JOHANNES CLARKE of Ardington married Alicia, daughter and heiress of ——— PIKEMAN or PICKMAN of Basildon (*vide* MS. 'Ashmole', 852, p. 331, "Heralds Visitation of Berks", 1665-6). This RICHARD HIGGE, or HIGGES, had a brother THOMAS HIGGES, and there is little doubt that either he or his brother THOMAS was the father of RICHARD HIGGS of Sulhampstead, Co. Berks, who married MARGARET LITTLEWORK in 1573. RICHARD HIGGE also speaks in his will of his "kinsman" THOMAS HIGGS of Whitchurch, Oxon. The eldest son of RICHARD HIGGE of Westridge was WILLIAM HIGGS, whose will was proved in 1626 (P.C.C. "Skynner", fo. 30), and his daughter ELIZABETH married THOMAS CLARKE of Southridge,





in the same parish. His son THOMAS HIGGS, as already recorded, became the ancestor of the HIGGS Family of Upton and Blewbury, Berks. One HENRY CLARKE of Goring, Oxon, in all probability a son of JOHN CLARKE of Ardington by ALICIA PIKEMAN, his wife (of



CLARKE OF ARDINGTON, CO. BERKS  
QUARTERING  
2. CHAMPENEY. 3. PIKEMAN OF  
BASILDON, BERKS.  
(‘Harl. MSS.’, 1081, fo. 17b.)

Basildon), had a daughter ALICE (CLARKE), who became the wife of RICHARD ALLEN of Streatley. The family of ALLEN was one closely associated with Basildon, Berks, and South Stoke, Oxon. JOHN ALLEN, son of RICHARD ALLEN of Streatley and ALICE CLARKE, his wife, married ANN, daughter of RALPH WHISTLER of Fulscot, Berks, another family which had marriage alliance with the HIGGS of South Stoke, whilst in the eighteenth century MOSES ALLEN, Gent., married MARY the daughter of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke. (MOSES ALLEN died 31 October, 1770, aged sixty-three; *vide* Mural Tablet in St. Andrew’s Church, South Stoke.) For further information about the family of ALLEN—who intermarried with the HIGGSSES, CLARKES and WHISTLERS—*vide* ‘Harl. MSS.’, 1483, fo. 72b, and 1530, fo. 52b. JOHN HIGGS of Westridge, Streatley, whose will was proved in 1665 (P.C.C. “Hyde”, fo. 49), a grandson of RICHARD HIGGE of Westridge, mentions his “kinsman” RICHARD HIGGS of Sulhamstead, thus definitely establishing the relationship between these families, whilst his brother WILLIAM HIGGS, yeoman, of Westridge (will proved 1651, P.C.C. “Grey”, fo. 25), mentions his “kinsman” WILLIAM HIGGS of Hampstead Norris, Berks, who was, in fact, his

uncle or his cousin, as in the will of his father WILLIAM HIGGES of Westridge (proved P.C.C. “Skynner”, fo. 30, 1627) he mentions his “Brother WILLIAM HIGGS of Hampstead Norris”. The following is an abstract made from this will :

#### ABSTRACT OF THE WILL OF WILLIAM HIGGES OF WESTRIDGE IN THE PARISH OF STREATLEY, CO. BERKS, 1627.

(P.C.C. “Skynner”, fo. 30.)

WILLIAM HIGGES of Westridge, purchased his land in that place from JOHN THOROLD, and left it to WILLIAM his son, and his heirs for ever. He owned land at Upton, in the Parish of Blowberry, Berks, which he purchased from WILLIAM STANTON, and left it to his son THOMAS HIGGS, and his heirs for ever, and ten pounds of good and lawful money. To his son JOHN HIGGS, the younger, and his heirs for ever, he left “A little coppice purchased from Mr. ELSTON, lying betwixt Colledgewood and Mr. SAMBOURNE’S grounds”, and £100.0.0. To his eldest son JOHN HIGGS £40.0.0, and to his five children 20/- each. To his son-in-law JOHN BIRD his debt to him. To his two daughters MILLICENT PAYNE and SUSAN BIRD 20/- each. To his brother WILLIAM HIGGS of Hampstead Norris a legacy. To JOHN CLARKE, son of his daughter ELIZABETH CLARKE, wife of THOMAS CLARKE of Southridge £10.0.0.

His sons WILLIAM HIGGS, and THOMAS HIGGS, were executors.

He also mentions his cousin WILLIAM FRUEN, and his cousin FRANCIS ANSTELL. Witnesses to the will were JOHN GRACE, FRANCIS ASTELL, WILLIAM FRUEN and THOMAS CULLENS.





## ABSTRACTS FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS OF STREATLEY, Co. BERKS.

*Marriages, 1695-1787 :*

1695. 29 Sept. HENRY BAYLY and MARTHA HIGGS, both of this parish.  
 1749. 16 Dec. JAMES HIGGS of Basildon and MARTHA WARNER of this parish.  
 1786. 20 April. RICHARD CHILD and MARY HIGGS.  
 1787. 22 Jan. JOHN GREENAWAY and MARY HIGGS, widow.

(Note.—“ There is no record of any marriage, baptism or burial in Streatley prior to 1679. The HIGGS in Streatley seem to have intermarried with the BAYLY family, the BAYLYS, or BAILEYS, with the CHENEYS, and then to have passed away from this parish a century or so ago.”—Rev. JOHN IZAT, Vicar of Streatley.

There was, however, a JOHN HIGGS of Streatley whose will was proved 10 May, 1665 (see Calendar of Original Berks Wills), also the estate of one RICHARD HIGGS of West-ridge in this parish was administered in 1575.—W. M. H.)

*Baptisms, 1679-1780 :*

1679. 8 Feb. MARY, daughter of JOHN and MARY HIGGS.  
 1695. 9 June. WILLIAM, son of JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS.  
 1762. 17 Oct. MARY, daughter of THOMAS and MARY HIGGS.  
 1772. 20 July. THOMAS, son of THOMAS and MARY HIGGS.  
 1773. 21 Sept. WILLIAM, son of THOMAS and MARY HIGGS.  
 1774. 28 Nov. SARAH, daughter of THOMAS and MARY HIGGS.  
 1780. 19 Nov. SOPHIA, daughter of JAMES and JANE HIGGS.

*Burials, 1679-1784 :*

1680. 26 Feb. ANNE, wife of ROBERT HIGGS.  
 1702. 9 Sept. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1703. 28 Jan. FRANCIS HIGGS.  
 1711. 17 Nov. MARY HIGGS, widow.  
 1721. 31 Dec. ANNE HIGGS.  
 1771. 5 Sept. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1772. 20 April. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1783. 16 Jan. JOHN HIGGS.  
 1784. 1 June. THOMAS HIGGS, aged 66 years.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SULHAM.

The parish registers at Sulham commence in 1720, the marriage entries of which have been printed by Messrs. Phillimore & Co., and show that *only two* HIGGS family *weddings* took place here between their commencement and 1836, namely :

1733. 16 July. PETER PAYNE and SARAH HIGGS.  
 1743. 10 Oct. JOHN EMMUNDS and SARAH HIGGS.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SULHAMPSTEAD, Co. BERKS.

About six miles south-west of Reading, and about double that distance—almost due south—from South Stoke, the villages of Sulhampstead Abbots and Sulhampstead Banister lie. It is stated that the name “ Sulhampstead ” meant in Saxon times “ South Homestead ”, in later times becoming “ Chilhamstead ”, “ Southstede ” and “ Sulhamstead ”. “ Abbots ” was no doubt appended because of the place having been granted by Henry I to the Abbey of Reading, and there are reasons for believing that this property may have belonged in earlier times to the ancient Saxon Monastery prior to the Norman Invasion. The parish registers of Sulhampstead Abbots commence in 1602, whilst those of the adjoining settlement of Sulhampstead Banister begin fifty-two years later in 1654.





As early as 1596 one JOHN HIGGS was settled in Sulhampstead Banister, he having married ELEANOR, daughter of JOHN WILDER of Nunhide, in Sulham, by AGNES (or ALICE), daughter and heiress of THOMAS KEATS, Esqre., of Sulham House. ELEANOR was a grand-daughter of JOHN and AGNES WILDER, and great-grand-daughter of one NICHOLAS WILDER, an officer at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 (when Richard III was defeated and slain by Henry, Duke of Richmond), who is said to have settled in England from Germany, and in 1497 to have been granted an estate and armorial rank. This family seems to have spread rapidly over Berkshire and Oxfordshire, and there are a number of instances of the families of HIGGS and WILDER becoming united by marriage. At Thatcham, Co. Berks, one JOHN HIGGS married an ELIZABETH WILDER 5 June, 1563, but they do not seem to have resided in Thatcham—at least no issue of this marriage are recorded in the baptismal entries of that parish. Magdalen, daughter of GRIFFITH HIGGS by SARA PAYN, his wife, of South Stoke, Oxon, married one NICHOLAS WILDER of Goring, Oxon (about 1615), in all probability a son of NICHOLAS WILDER, the brother of ELEANOR, who married JOHN HIGGS of Sulhampstead, in which case JOHN HIGGS would be the uncle of the aforesaid MAGDALEN HIGGS, baptized at South Stoke 30 June, 1594.

The will of JOHN HIGGS of Sulhampstead Banister (with little doubt one of the numerous sons of NICHOLAS HIGGS of South Stoke by MARY, daughter and co-heir of GRIFFITH BARTON, Esqre., his wife) was proved 3 March, 1598/9, having been dated 4 December, 1596 (Arch. Berks. J., 389). In it he mentions his son JOHN, his daughter MARY, the wife of one PHILLIPS, and his daughter ALICE HIGGS. It would appear from the Will of this son JOHN HIGGS, also of Sulhampstead Banister—(pr. 1604, Arch. Berks. J., 1353)—that this male line died out, as he makes mention of no children by his wife JOANE. His will was witnessed by THOMAS, ELEANOR, JOHN and ELIZABETH MORELAND, and it is of interest to note that in 1625 the Rev. THOMAS MORELAND occupied the Rectory which adjoins Brazen Head Cottage. This picturesque cottage-home was built in the latter part of the sixteenth century, and became the property of WILLIAM WILDER, who sold it to a WILLIAM PARR, who in turn sold it in 1639 to the Kendrick Charity. In 1774 Brazen Head Cottage (which in the early part of the nineteenth century was destined to become the home of another branch of the HIGGS family settling in Sulhampstead from Thatcham in Berkshire), was sold by one JOEL STEPHENS to WILLIAM THOYTS, Esqre., and it remained in the THOYTS family of Sulhampstead House until 1910, when it was sold to the late Sir WILLIAM WATSON. The celebrated engineer in his day, SAMUEL (afterwards SIR SAMUEL) MORELAND or MORLAND, who for some time acted as assistant to JOHN THURLOE, the confidential secretary to OLIVER CROMWELL, was a son of the aforesaid REV. THOMAS MORELAND, of the Rectory.

There was at this time, however, another family of HIGGS in this locality, who flourished for at least three generations at Sulhampstead Abbots, namely that of RICHARD HIGGS and his descendants. This RICHARD HIGGS may have been a brother of JOHN HIGGS the elder of Sulhampstead Banister, and also another of the sons of NICHOLAS HIGGS of South Stoke and MARY, daughter and co-heir of GRIFFITH BARTON, Esqre., his wife, or possibly a descendant of WILLIAM HIGGS of Shinfield, a village three miles to the south of Reading, and lying about six miles to the east of Sulhampstead, as RICHARD HIGGS's, grandson RICHARD HIGGS owned land at Burghfield, a village lying between Sulhampstead Abbots and Shinfield, and too in 1761 one SAMUEL HIGGS of Shinfield, who was the school-master there, died, and desired by his Will to be buried "in the chancel of Sulhampstead Abbots' Church, in a lead coffin, near to my Grandmother HIGGS". (He may have been a descendant of SAMUEL, the grandson of RICHARD HIGGS.) RICHARD HIGGS the first of Sulhampstead Abbots married one MARGARET LITTLEWORK (probably of Englefield), and by her had at least two sons—JAMES HIGGS





and RICHARD HIGGS—and was father also of AGNES, who became the wife of WILLIAM WHEATE in 1604 (the first entry in the Sulhampstead Abbots Register of Marriages).

JAMES HIGGS married and became the father of RICHARD HIGGS, a much respected man in the parish. This RICHARD HIGGS was in business as a turner and cooper. In 1654, during "the days of confusion", he was chosen by the parishioners as Registrar in compliance with the Act of Parliament ordering such appointments to be made, which Act was passed in 1653. Apparently he was Registrar for both Sulhampstead Abbots and Sulhampstead Banister. He was Churchwarden of Sulhampstead Abbots in 1681, and also in 1682, the year of his death, when he was buried at Sulhampstead Banister 5 July of that year. In the Churchwardens' Accounts, which were kept at Sulhampstead



BRAZEN HEAD COTTAGE, SULHAMPSTEAD, CO. BERKS.

House, and which date from 1669, RICHARD HIGGS's name appears among the names of subscribers (as was required by Act of Parliament) to a fund for "Redeeming the English captives in Turkey" in the year 1670, RICHARD HIGGS contributing 1s., JOHN BROWN, his servant, 6d., and CATHERINE HANNINGTON, likewise his servant, 6d. Only two persons contributed more than 1s., namely the Rector, the REV. JAMES FAYSER, 5s., and FRANCES FAYSER, his wife, 2s. The total amount raised by the parishioners for this purpose was £1 2s. 10d. By his wife JANE, RICHARD HIGGS had two children—one son, JAMES, baptized at Sulhampstead Banister 18 December, 1672, and who died intestate at the age of twenty (administration granted to his father 12 April, 1692—Archdeaconry of Berks), and one daughter, ANNE, baptized 6 January, 1661, also at Sulhampstead Banister, who became the wife of JOHN MUNGER or MONGER, by whom she had five children. Their home is thought to have been the cottage just over the Burghfield Parish Boundary, behind Whitehouse Green, in the Manor of Sheffield. There is a local charity known as "Monger's Charity", the history of which is as follows:





" In 1626, RICHARD, son of WILLIAM MARSHE, was buried at Sulhampstead Abbots. His will was proved at Reading ; he gave to RICHARD HIGGS his messuage, etc., in Sulhampstead Abbots and Sheffield to provide 5s. yearly for the poor of the parish to be paid every Ascension Day until the World's End. The first entry in the Churchwarden's Books is 1706. This Charity is still paid. RICHARD HIGGS was a turner ; his daughter ANNE married JOHN MONGER ; from this the Donation became known, as it still is, as ' Monger's Charity '."—' History of Sulhampstead,' by Mrs. E. E. Thoyts.

So, with the death of JAMES, the son of RICHARD HIGGS, the Registrar in 1672, the male line from him apparently died out.

Returning to the second son of RICHARD HIGGS by MARGARET LITTLEWORK his wife, RICHARD by name. He was evidently from his will (proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Berkshire, 14 June, 1665) a man of learning as well as being a considerable land-owner in the counties of Berks and Hants. In his will he mentions his kinsman WILLIAM HIGGS of Westridge and Streatley, which rather strengthens the supposition that his father RICHARD *was* one of the sons of NICHOLAS HIGGS of South Stoke. It has been stated that AGNES, the daughter of RICHARD the elder of Sulhampstead Abbots, married WILLIAM WHEATE, and it would seem from the will of her brother RICHARD HIGGS the younger that he, too, married into the same family, as he mentions " My loving brother SAMUEL WHEATE ". By Elizabeth his wife he had at least three sons—JOHN HIGGS, RICHARD HIGGS and SAMUEL HIGGS and a daughter ANNE, who was baptized at Sulhampstead Banister in 1636, and was buried there 18 November, 1670. To JOHN HIGGS, his eldest son, he left all his land at Sherborne, Southampton (Co. Hants), property which RICHARD HIGGS had purchased from one JOSEPH BLAYNAUE, and at the time of his death was in the occupation of WIDOW CORDEROY. To his second son, RICHARD HIGGS, he bequeathed all his land in Sulhampstead Abbots and in Burghfield in the occupation of JOHN NORMAN, and to his son SAMUEL HIGGS he demised land at West Sherborne in the possession of one WILLIAM READE. All his books in " Hebrew, Greek, Latin and English " were to be divided equally among his children. He makes mention of his " cousins " EDWARD and ELEANOR CHIENNEL. His Will was witnessed by one STEPHEN KENT, and was proved 14 June, 1665. It is sealed with an armorial seal in wax, showing three eagles displayed upon the field with his initials R.H. This is curious, as these Arms are those of Queen's College, Oxford. He was buried at Sulhampstead Banister 5 May, 1665. It may be that after RICHARD HIGGS's decease his sons moved away from Sulhampstead, with perhaps the exception of RICHARD, to whom the Sulhampstead property was bequeathed. Apparently his widow moved to Reading, for the following entry appears in the Register of Sulhampstead Banister :

" 1691. 9 Sept. ELIZABETH HIGGS of Reading was buried ".

There are remarkably few HIGGS entries in the registers of either parish. Possibly the FRANCIS HIGGS who, by ANN his wife, had a son FRANCIS, who was baptized 20 March, 1692, was a son of RICHARD, the second son of RICHARD and ELIZABETH HIGGS. It would also seem that the younger FRANCIS HIGGS had a son JOHN HIGGS, who by his wife ANN had two sons—FRANCIS, baptized at Sulhampstead Abbots 15 April, 1742, and WILLIAM, baptized 30 June, 1745—after which time the parish records throw no light upon their descendants. About the year 1765 one JAMES HIGGS settled in Sulhampstead from the parish of Thatcham in the same county. He is said to have been a son of JAMES HIGGS of Cold Ash by Henwick in the parish of Thatcham, by HANNAH, daughter of WILLIAM COGGS of Henwick. He left Thatcham " under a cloud " according to family tradition with his descendants, and also according to a similar tradition among the descendants of ADAM HIGGS, another son of JAMES and HANNAH HIGGS of Cold Ash. Just what the trouble in the family was has not come to light, and





perhaps it is just as well that such family disagreements and troubles should be buried. By his wife Elizabeth he had several children, and BERRY HIGGS, his son, who was baptized at Sulhampstead Abbots 27 February, 1773, was engaged for some time in the



ANN, WIFE OF BERRY HIGGS OF  
SULHAMPSTEAD,  
CO. BERKS, AT THE AGE OF 86.



MARY, WIFE OF JAMES HIGGS OF  
SULHAMPSTEAD, CO.  
BERKS, AND DAUGHTER OF NICHOLAS  
PAICE OF ALDERMASTON.



BRAZEN HEAD COTTAGE, SULHAMPSTEAD, CO. BERKS, THE BIRTHPLACE OF WILLIAM  
HIGGS, ESQ., J.P., OF PARK CLOSE, BASINGSTOKE, CO. HANTS

early part of his life in some capacity upon the construction of the Bath Road between Reading and Newbury. He, however, eventually settled in his native village and turned his attention to farming. JAMES HIGGS, his father, died at Sulhampstead, according to the Sulhampstead Abbots register, and was buried 2 July, 1809, at the age of 69, so







ALDERMASTON VILLAGE STREET, SHOWING COTTAGE OF NICHOLAS PAICE

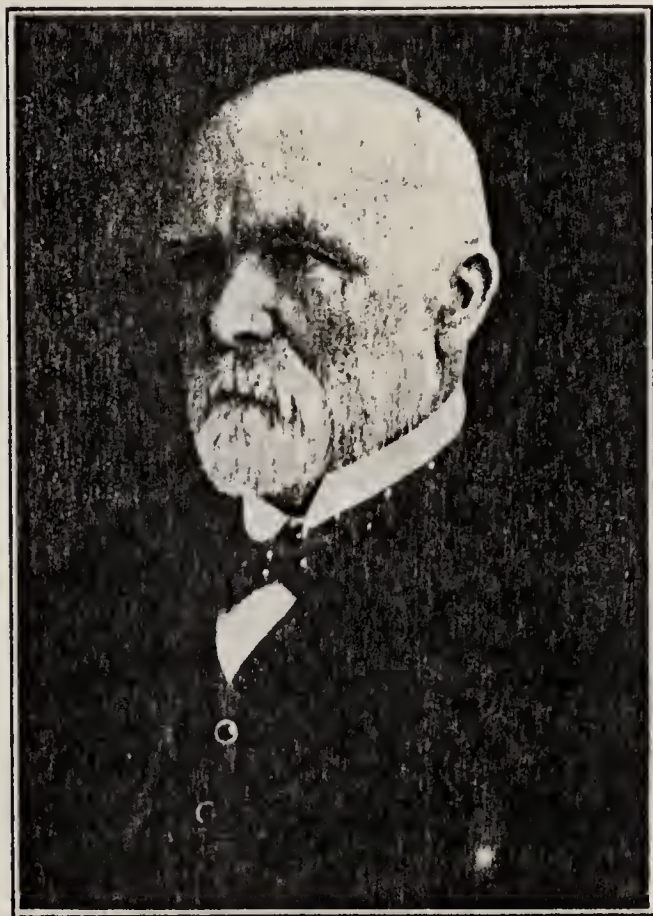


ALDERMASTON PARISH CHURCH AND CHURCHYARD, CO. BERKS





that he was born at Thatcham about the year 1740, and must have been one of the younger, if not the youngest, child of his parents. BERRY HIGGS married ANN, daughter of THOMAS SEARIS by MARY, his wife, and from a careful search made through the registers of both Sulhampstead Abbots and Sulhampstead Banister, it would appear that her parents settled in this locality shortly before she, their eldest child, was born—about the year 1773. The surname is an uncommon one, and is found variously spelt in the registers in connection with the baptism of children of the same parentage as SURRS, SEERS, SCEARE, SEARY, SIERES and SEARIS. THOMAS SEARIS was buried in



*Wm. Higgs Esq.*  
*William Higgs*

WILLIAM HIGGS, ESQ., J.P., OF PARK CLOSE,  
 BASINGSTOKE, CO. HANTS.

Sulhampstead Abbots Churchyard in 1831, aged eighty years, whilst the remains of his wife Mary were also laid to rest there in 1833, when of the age of eighty-eight years. After BERRY HIGGS's decease his widow conducted a Dames' school in Brazen Head Cottage, where she lived. She was much beloved and respected in the village. She died in 1858 or '59, and was eighty-six years of age at the time of her death. As will be seen from the tabulated pedigree given of this branch of the family, BERRY and ANN HIGGS left five sons and three daughters, and JAMES HIGGS, the second son, lived at Brazen Head Cottage. He was baptized at Sulhampstead Abbots 10 January, 1808, and married MARY, daughter of NICHOLAS PAICE of Aldermaston in the county of Berks. The PAICE family had been long seated in that village, and the name is found in many places in the county from quite early times. NICHOLAS PAICE was forester and park keeper at Aldermaston Park, and lived in a cottage about midway of the village street, a view of which is given here. This was the birthplace of MARY PAICE. Many generations





of the PAICE family lie buried in Aldermaston Churchyard, and NICHOLAS was interred at a spot near to the old yew tree seen in the picture here reproduced, on the left side of the picture. A sister of MARY PAICE, MARTHA by name, left Aldermaston and went to live in London, and it was many years before the two sisters again met. The unusual coincidence in connection with these two daughters of NICHOLAS PAICE of Aldermaston is that when they did meet each of them was a MRS. HIGGS, MARTHA having met in London one EDWARD HIGGS, a clerk in some Government office, whom she married, whilst MARY had become the wife of JAMES HIGGS, of Brazen Head Cottage, Sulhampstead. To what branch of the Higgs family this EDWARD HIGGS belonged is not known.

The fourth son of JAMES HIGGS of Brazen Head Cottage, by MARY PAICE, his wife, was WILLIAM HIGGS, who was born in that old home 11 June, 1852. At an early age



PARK CLOSE, BASINGSTOKE, CO. HANTS, THE RESIDENCE OF  
WILLIAM HIGGS, ESQ., J.P.—DESIGNED BY HIMSELF.

he was sent to the parish school in Sulhampstead Abbots, founded and endowed by the Misses THOYTS in 1817. On leaving school at the age of twelve he obtained work in Reading at the biscuit factory of Messrs. Huntley & Palmer, and at the age of fourteen found employment at the Reading Gas Works, where he commenced his training as a gas engineer. In 1874 he became an assistant to the Secretary and Manager of the Exeter Gas Company, and in 1883 was appointed secretary and manager to the Basingstoke Gas Company. His public work in this Hampshire town has been mainly in the interest of educational affairs. As a member of the school board he served for a period of nine years until the Education Act of 1902, when he was appointed a selected member of the Hampshire Education Committee, and has served on this committee continuously for twenty years.

At varying periods Mr. WILLIAM HIGGS has acted as Chairman of the Governing Body of Queen Mary's Grammar School for Boys, and the Basingstoke County High School for Girls. On 18 October, 1915, he was made a Justice of the Peace for the county of Hampshire. On 3 June, 1880, he married LAURA CELIA, daughter of GEORGE COLDRIDGE, of Exeter, Devon, by whom he had five sons. She died 20 August, 1920. He married secondly SUSANNAH JANE WOOD of Paignton, in the county of Devon, who is





## PEDIGREE of HIGGS of SULHAMPSTEAD, Co. BERKS, a branch of those of THATCHAM.

**JAMES HIGGS** **HANNAH** dau of  
of COLD ASH, THATCHAM.  
In business as a Cooper &  
manufacturer of Agricultural implements.  
bur. at THATCHAM Co. BERKS  
19 JULY 1763.

**WILLIAM COGGS**  
of HENWICK by COLD ASH,  
PARISH of THATCHAM, Co. BERKS  
bapt. at THATCHAM 17 JAN. 1696  
mar. " " 2 NOV. 1721.

**JOHN HIGGS** of SILCHESTER  
Co. HANTS.  
died there intestate  
without issue. His  
heir at law was ad-  
vertised for and  
JOSHUA HIGGS, of  
COLD ASH, the eldest  
grandson of ADAM  
HIGGS made an un-  
successful claim to  
the Estate at SILCHESTER

**JOSEPH HIGGS** of COLD ASH, of Cold Ash  
Cooper.  
Family tradition with  
the descendants of ADAM  
HIGGS is that a brother left  
THATCHAM and was not  
heard of again.

**ADAM HIGGS** **MARY**  
LAWRENCE  
MAY  
WELLS.

**JAMES HIGGS** **ELIZA**  
Said to have left  
home "Under a cloud"  
this tradition has  
been handed down  
to his descendants  
he settled at  
SULHAMPSTEAD BERKS  
born: about 1740  
bur. at SULHAMPSTEAD  
ABBOTS 2 JULY 1809.  
aged 69.

**BETH**  
JOHN ANN  
HIGGS .....  
of SULHAMP-  
STEAD BANNISTER  
? Later of  
SILCHESTER

**JAMES HIGGS** **WILLIAM BERRY HIGGS** **ANN** dau. of **ELIZA**  
bapt. at: **HIGGS** Yeoman of **THOMAS & MARY BETH** bapt. at:  
SULHAMPSTEAD BANNISTER bur. 19 March 1785 bapt. there 27 FEB. 1773 SEARIS of 10 FEB. 1771. died: ..  
6 Sept. 1769. For sometime in his early life he was oc-  
cupied in some capacity  
on the construction of the BATH  
Road between READING & NEWBURY

**ANN** dau. of **ELIZA**  
bapt. at:  
SULHAMPSTEAD BANNISTER  
21 SEPT. 1777  
died: ..

**WILLIAM HIGGS** **JAMES HIGGS** **MARY** dau. of **THOMAS** **CHARLES** **JOHN**  
of BRAZEN HEAD COTTAGE **NICHOLAS** **HIGGS** **HIGGS** **HIGGS** **MARY** bapt. 30 Nov. 1802  
SULHAMPSTEAD BANNISTER **PAICE** of **ALDERMASTON** **CO. BERKS.** **Presumably these three**  
bapt. 10 JAN 1808 at **SULHAMPSTEAD ABBOTS** **bur. SULHAMPSTEAD BANNISTER FEB. 1878** sons were all born at  
HAMPSTEAD ABBOTS 12 JAN 1806 **ELIZABETH** bapt. at:  
SULHAMPSTEAD ABBOTS 23 Oct. 1803.  
**ANN** bapt. 18 FEB 1810 at SULHAMPSTEAD BANNISTER

**HENRY HIGGS** **THOMAS HIGGS** **EDWARD HIGGS** **WILLIAM HIGGS, Esq. JR.** **LAURA** **REBECKAH**  
born: 1836 of born: 1848 of **PARK CLOSE** **CELIA** (2) **SARAH**  
mar. and by **MAIDENHEAD** **Relist home** **BASINGSTOKE, Co. HANTS.** dau. of  
his wife **ANNE** born: 1840 at a early **BRAZEN HEAD COTTAGE** in **GEORGE**  
he had 3 sons died 7 Dec 1924. age & was **SULHAMPSTEAD BANNISTER** **COLDRIDGE**  
& 3 daughters- he mar. **ANNIE** of afterwards **of EXETER**  
**RICHARD, WILLIAM** **MINES** & by her had a **died 20 Aug 1920**  
& **HERBERT; SOPHIA** **Son ARTHUR & 8 dau's** **= 2ndly: SUSANNA JANE WOOD**  
**AMY & MAUD.** Note: Both **HENRY & THOMAS** were Veterans of the Crimean War.  
died: 30 Oct 1908 bur. **THORNTON HEATH Co. SURREY.**

**WILLIAM NICHOLLS HIGGS** **HERBERT COLDRIDGE HIGGS** **MABEL CARTER** **SIDNEY JARVIS HIGGS**  
born 19 APR 1881 & died aged 11 yrs. of **BASINGSTOKE** born 25 MAY 1883  
born 19 DEC 1885 m 13 JULY 1911 born 1888 died aged 16

**HERMON** **OLIVE** **JOHN** **GERTRUDE**  
**HIGGS** **HAIL** **NICHOLLS** **GREEN.**  
**STONE** **HIGGS**  
SALISBURY, Co. WILTS born 14 JAN 1892 b. 23 Oct 1891 m 14 MAR 1923 b. 20/1/98 m 10th 1926

**WILLIAM CARTER** **OLIVE FRANCES** **CELIA** **MARION** **PETER JOHN**  
born 15 AUG 1912 MABEL b. 9 FEB 1916 born 11 JULY 1924 born 10 OCT 1929 b. 6 JAN 1921 b. 17 AUG 1924





a lineal descendant of the Rev. ABRAHAM GREENWOOD, who was Baptist Minister at Barton-on-Humber in 1797, and who was one of the founders of the Baptist Missionary Society.

In the Lower Lane, Sulhampstead, there lived the widow of one THOMAS HIGGS. She died of influenza on Sunday, 10 January, 1892, according to the MS. notes upon the parish by Mrs. E. E. Thoyts, preserved in the Library at Reading. This THOMAS HIGGS was an uncle of the aforesaid WILLIAM HIGGS, J.P., of Park Close, Basingstoke. He had five sons—THOMAS, FREDERICK, CHARLES, GEORGE and MANASSEH; the last-named was living in one of Biddle's Cottages in 1892, and then working for a Mr. FENN. There were also three daughters—ELIZABETH, MARY MATILDA and HELEN. Thus ends the account of the family of HIGGS of the Sulhampstead district of Berkshire.

#### HIGGS ENTRIES IN THE PARISH REGISTERS OF SULHAMPSTEAD ABBOTS.

From 1602-1810.

##### *Marriages :*

1604.	24 Oct.	WILLIAM WHEATE and AGNES HIGGES.
1683.	12 May	WILLIAM HOLLOWAY and JANE HIGGS (widow). (No doubt the widow of RICHARD HIGGS, the Registrar.)
1760.	16 Nov.	JOHN TAYLOR and ANN HIGGS.

##### *Baptisms :*

1606.	27 July.	ALES, daughter of FRANCIS HICS (? HICKS or HIGGS).
1842.	15 Apr.	FRANCIS, son of JOHN and SARAH HIGGS.
1745.	30 June.	WILLIAM, son of JOHN and SARAH HIGGS.
1771.	10 Feb.	ELIZABETH, daughter of JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1773.	27 Feb.	BERRY, or BERREY, son of JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS. (In brackets (From Thatcham).)
1802.	30 Nov.	MARY, daughter of BERRY and ANN HIGGS.
1803.	23 Oct.	ELIZABETH, daughter of BERRY and ANN HIGGS.
1806.	12 Jan.	WILLIAM, son of BERRY and ANN HIGGS.
1808.	10 Jan.	JAMES, son of BERRY and ANN HIGGS.
1810.	18 Feb.	ANN, daughter of BERRY and ANN HIGGS. (Baptized at Banister.)

##### *Burials :*

1630.	10 Oct.	ELSE, wife of FRANCIS HICKES (possibly HIGGES).
1703.	12 Mar.	JAMES HIGGS, an infant from Burfield.
1785.	19 Mar.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1802.	11 Dec.	MARY HIGGS, an infant (born 1802).
1809.	2 July	JAMES HIGGS, aged 69.

#### SULHAMPSTEAD BANISTER.

From 1654-1784.

##### *Marriages :*

1792.	24 May.	GEORGE SHEPHERD, of Tilehurst, and MARY HIGGS
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##### *Baptisms :*

1636.	.....	ANNA, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS, Jun.
1672.	18 Dec.	JAMES, son of RICHARD and JANE HIGGS.
1692.	20 Mar.	FRANCIS, son of FRANCIS and ANN HIGGS.
1769.	6 Sept.	JAMES, son of JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1777.	21 Sept.	ANNE, daughter of JOHN and ANN HIGGS.





*Burials :*

1665.	5 May.	RICHARD HIGGS.
1670.	18 Nov.	ANN, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS.
1682.	5 July	RICHARD HIGGS (turner).
1691.	9 Sept.	ELIZABETH HIGGS, of Reading (probably widow of RICHARD HIGGS.
1732.	24 July.	FRANCIS HIGGS.
1758.	3 Dec.	SAMUEL HIGGS from Shinfield.

(*Note.*—These registers appear to have been very indifferently kept both at Sulhampstead Abbots and Sulhampstead Banister.—W. M. H.)

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SWALLOWFIELD.

As recorded in the notes upon HIGGS of Sonning, Co. Berks, RICHARD HIGGES of that place willed his tenement and land, called "Kembers," at Swallowfield, Berks, to his son WILLIAM HIGGES in 1602.

The village of Swallowfield lies about six miles south of Reading and about twelve miles from Thatcham "as the crow flies". From the parish registers of this place WILLIAM "HEGES", a son of WILLIAM "HIGES", was buried at Swallowfield 24 October, 1687. The burial of the father does not seem to have been recorded there. The registers commence in 1539, and the first record of a HIGGS being buried in this parish is that of SIBELL, the wife of one NICHOLAS HIGGES, on 3 July, 1657. However, there was another NICHOLAS HIGGES, other than her husband, who was buried on 12 September, 1669, namely NICHOLAS HIGGES of Swallowfield, whose estate was administered by his widow MARY in 1665, and he may have been the father of the NICHOLAS who died in 1669 and a son of WILLIAM HIGGES, who inherited "Kembers" from his father RICHARD HIGGES of Sonning.

The following are the abstracts of HIGGS burials at Swallowfield up to 1704 :

*1657.	3 July.	SIBELL HIGGES, the wife of NICHOLAS.
*1669.	12 Sept.	NICHOLAS HIGGES.
1670.	12 July.	JANE HIGGS.
1675/6.	27 Jan.	Widow HIGGES.
1680.	21 June.	JANE HIGGS, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.
1682.	27 Sept.	Widow HIGGS.
1684.	5 June.	RICHARD HIGGES.
1687.	24 Oct.	WILLIAM HIGGES, son of WILLIAM HIGGES.
1685/6.	14 Feb.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1688.	20 Oct.	WILLIAM HIGGS.
1704.	12 Apr.	JANE, wife of THOMAS HIGGS.

*Marriages, 1650-1710 (only).* *Note.*—The Swallowfield Registers commence in 1539 :

1654/5.	22 Mar.	JOHN HIGGS and ALICE CANE.
1658.	20 June.	HENRY LONCH of Frilsham, Berks, and ANN HIGGS of Donington, Co. Berks.
1672.	6 May.	JOHN ALEXANDER and MARGARET HIGGS.
1681/2.	4 Jan.	HENRY READING and MARY HIGGS.
1690.	20 Apr.	WILLIAM WYAT and MARY HIGGS.
1708.	30 May.	JOHN SADGROVE and ANN HIGGS.

*Baptisms, 1650-1710 :*

1653/4.	3 Mar.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGS.
1654.	31 Dec.	JOHN, son of JOHN HIGGS.
1656.	3 April.	ANN HIGGS, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.
1660.	8 April.	JANE, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.

\* NICHOLAS HIGGES and SIBBILL COCK were married 30 November, 1607, at Pyrton, in Oxfordshire.—Extract from 'Phillimore's Marriage Registers'





1679.	5 Nov.	JANE, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.
1681.	12 June.	HANNA HIGES, daughter of THOMAS HIGES and JANE, his wife.
1683.	1 Dec.	ELIZABETH HIGES, daughter of THOMAS HIGES.
1685/6.	3 Feb.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1687.	29 Mar.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGS and ANN, his wife.
1689.	28 Oct.	WILLIAM, son of THOMAS HIGGS and ANN, his wife.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF THATCHAM.

## THATCHAM PARISH REGISTERS.

*Marriages, 1561-1837 :*

1690.	19 Jan.	WILLIAM HEAD of Speen and ELIZABETH HIGGS of Speen.
1722.	2 Nov.	JAMES HIGGS and HANNAH COGGS.
1747.	19 Oct.	WILLIAM MORSS of Thatcham and ELIZABETH HIGGS of Newbury.
1753.	23 Dec.	ADAM HIGGS and MARY LAWRENCE.
1764.	20 Aug.	JOHN GOODEY of Woolhampton and CHARITY HIGGS of Thatcham.
1766.	30 Dec.	JAMES KING and RUTH HIGGS.
1771.	5 Dec.	ADAM HIGGS and MARY WELLS.
1813.	24 Dec.	JAMES ROADS and MARTHA HIGGS. Witnesses : CALEB HIGGS and ESTHER CORDEROX.

*Baptisms, 1561-1837 :*

1653.	—	MARY, daughter of NICHOLAS HIGGS.
1656.	5 April.	MARGARET, daughter of NICHOLAS HIGGS.
1657.	16 Dec.	A daughter of KATHERINE HIGGS (reputed father GEORGE PAICE).
1663.	15 Sept.	ANNE, daughter of NICHOLAS HIGGS.
1690.	12 June.	ROGER, son of ROGER "HICKS" (COWPER).
1691.	26 July.	MARY, daughter of ROGER "HIGGS" (COWPER).
1694.	1 June.	"A son of ROGER HIGGS."
1722.	(?) Dec.	HENRY (?), son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1724.	1 May.	HANNAH, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1754.	28 Dec.	SARAH, daughter of ADAM and MARY HIGGS.
1756.	31 May.	MARY, daughter of ADAM and MARY HIGGS.
1758.	17 Sept.	JAMES, son of ADAM and MARY HIGGS.
1760.	3 Aug.	PHOEBE, daughter of ADAM and MARY HIGGS.
1760.	9 Nov.	HANNAH, daughter of ELIZABETH HEGIS.
1762.	27 June.	SAMSON, son of ADAM and MARY HIGGS.
1764.	20 July.	PATIENCE, daughter of ADAM and MARY HIGGS.
1800.	28 Dec.	WILLIAM, son of JOHN and CHARLOTTE HIGGS, born 16 November.
1803.	9 Jan.	CHARLES, son of JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS (born 4 December 1802).

*Burials, 1561-1837 :*

1657.	5 June.	NICHOLAS HIGGES.
1657.	22 Dec.	Base child of KATHERINE HIGGES.
1660.	12 Mar.	ANNE HIGGES (widow).
1665.	12 April.	ANNE, wife of NICHOLAS HIGGES.
1665.	23 Aug.	NICHOLAS HIGGES.
1665.	20 Sept.	MARY, daughter of NICHOLAS HIGGES (senior, deceased).
1669.	26 Mar.	THOMAS HIGGES.
1669.	2 Oct.	WALTER HIGGES.
1673.	18 June.	MARGARET HIGGS (spinster).
1690.	14 June.	ROGER, son of ROGER "HICKS" (cowper).
1694.	14 July.	WILLIAM, son of ROGER HIGGS.
1723.	8 July.	THOMAS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1730.	27 Oct.	ROGER HIGGS (bucket maker).
1743.	19 Mar.	JOHN, son of THOMAS and ELIZABETH HEGIS.
1755.	23 July.	SARAH, daughter of ADAM and MARY HIGGS.
1763.	19 July.	JAMES HIGGS (bucket maker).
1766.	9 Sept.	MARY, wife of ADAM HIGGS.
1766.	10 Nov.	"A child of ADAM HIGGS."





1776.	23 Jan.	MARY HIGGS.
1782.	5 Aug.	PHOEBE HIGGS.
1786.	19 May.	RICHARD HIGGS.
1786.	15 June.	JAMES HIGGS.
1797.	6 Jan.	GEORGE HIGGS (infant).
1803.	25 Mar.	MARY HIGGS (infant).
1804.	5 Nov.	CHARITY HIGGS (infant).
1806.	8 Jan.	CORNELIUS HIGGS (infant).
1807.	27 Feb.	ADAM HIGGS.
1808.	26 Aug.	HESTER HIGGS (infant).
1812.	24 Dec.	MARY HIGGS, aged 79 years.
1813.	9 Aug.	ANN HIGGS (infant) of Cold Ash.
1829.	25 April.	SAMSON HIGGS, aged 66 years.
1833.	20 Nov.	PRUDENCE HIGGS, aged 32 years.
1834.	7 Mar.	ELIZABETH HIGGS of Newbury, aged 22 years.
1836.	4 July.	JAMES HIGGS of Thatcham, aged 1 year.
1834.	28 Feb.	HEPHZIBA HIGGS, daughter of SAMSON and ANN HIGGS, aged 22 years.

The following members of the HIGGS family of Thatcham were baptized at the Lower Meeting House at Newbury, Berks ('Independent', founded A.D. 1686).

*Baptisms, 1695-1771 (vol. i) :*

1735.	8 Oct.	JOSEPH, son of JAMES and HANNAH HIGGS.
1738.	24 Nov.	RUTH, daughter of JAMES and HANNAH HIGGS.
1741.	15 June.	CHARITY, daughter of JAMES and HANNAH HIGGS.

(*Note.*—These are all the references to HIGGSES in this volume of baptisms [Registrar-General's Office, London. Non-Parochial Registers, Berks, No. 13].)

### THE BAILY FAMILY OF THATCHAM AND NEWBURY.

Mr. RICHARD BAILY, a native of Thatcham, went to live at Newbury, and resided in the house on the west side of Northbrook Street now known as "Cambridge House". He became established as a banker in Newbury, and married SARAH HEAD, of an old family in the town, by whom he had five sons and two daughters. The family of HEAD was long resident both in Newbury and the adjoining village of Speen. In 1682 one JOSEPH HEAD was Churchwarden at the Parish Church of Newbury, and became Mayor of the town in 1692. His son JOSEPH also succeeded him in this office in 1713. A WILLIAM HEAD of Speen married ELIZABETH HIGGS of that place at Thatcham 19 January, 1690. Others of the HEAD family were mayors of Newbury—BENJAMIN HEAD in 1721, JOHN HEAD in 1738, LAWRENCE HEAD in 1750—and JAMES HEAD was town clerk for Newbury from 1757 until 1779, when he resigned.

RICHARD BAILY became mayor of Newbury in 1773. On 13 October, 1813, a "Licence of Alienation" (which was leave from the Crown to transfer property in land held in chief—*i. e.* directly from the King) was granted by Corpus Christi College, Oxford, to RICHARD BAILY of Newbury, Co. Berks, banker, to lease certain lands in Newtown, Newbury, in the county of Southampton (Hampshire), to ROBERT BROOKMAN and FRANCES, his wife, and to THOMAS WHITE, rake-maker, of Newtown.

FRANCIS BAILY, D.C.L.(Oxford and Dublin), F.R.S., etc., etc., was the third son of RICHARD and SARAH BAILY of Newbury. Born 28 April, 1774, he sailed for America in 1795, crossing 2000 miles of land upon that continent then uninhabited except by Indians. He returned to England in 1798 and settled down as a stockbroker. In 1820 he helped to form the Astronomical Society, and was twice the recipient of that Society's Gold Medal. He died 30 August, 1844, and an offer was made by the authorities to inter his remains in Westminster Abbey, but his relatives preferred his resting with his father





and mother in Thatcham Church, where there is a stained glass window to his memory, also a mural tablet.

It was Miss HANNAH GOODAY (or GOODEY), sister of JOHN GOODAY of Woolhampton, Co. Berks (who married CHARITY, the younger daughter of JAMES HIGGS of Cold Ash, Thatcham), who became the wife of one of the Baily family shortly after the death of JOSEPH, son of JAMES HIGGS of Cold Ash, which occurred between 1795 and 1805, and the money which he left to her, his kinswoman (because he resented his brother ADAM HIGGS encouraging the Nonconformist cause in Thatcham), became used by her—as Mrs. HANNAH BAILY—in the interests of the Nonconformists. It was on 17 August, 1803, that Mrs. HANNAH BAILY licensed her house for the meeting of Protestant Dissenters for religious worship in Thatcham, and this certificate was witnessed among others by WILLIAM HIGGS and SAMSON HIGGS, the last named being a nephew of the aforesaid JOSEPH HIGGS (*vide* Chapter V).

(*Note.*—In connection with the HIGGS family of Streatley, Co. Berks (just across the river from Goring, Oxon, and South Stoke, a mile or so further upstream), they intermarried with the BAILY family : *vide* HIGGS Family of Streatley, Co. Berks.)

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF WHITE WALTHAM AND LAWRENCE WALTHAM.

The villages of White Waltham and Lawrence Waltham lie about two miles apart, being about ten and eight miles' distance in a north-easterly direction from Reading. The parish registers of White Waltham commence in 1563, whilst those of the neighbouring village of Lawrence Waltham, or Waltham, commence in 1559.

These registers have not been examined for members of the HIGGS families which were settled at an early date in these parishes, but certain it is that one ROGER HIGGS, who according to a record found in the Court of Requests Proceedings (Public Record Office, London, HIGGS *v.* SIMONS 72/77—*vide* Chancery Proceedings in this work), son of JOHN HIGGS of Basildon, in the same county, was living in White Waltham, in the 32nd year of the reign of Queen ELIZABETH (1590). His sister KATHERINE, the wife of one THOMAS SIMONS, lived here with him for a while, and her husband being in pecuniary circumstances ROGER HIGGS appointed him his bailiff at Basildon, as he held the property in connection with the Parsonage in that place. This record therefore clearly shows that the HIGGSes of White Waltham settled here from Basildon, Berks. ROGER HIGGS's will was proved in 1613 (P.C.C. "Capel", fo. 20). In all probability JOHN HIGGS, Gentleman, who died whilst imprisoned in Reading Gaol 20 March, 1615, and who was buried at Waltham, was a brother of ROGER HIGGS, the elder, of White Waltham—designated as "Gentleman" in his will (1613)—and likewise a son of JOHN HIGGS, Yeoman of Basildon, who died there about February, 1583 (25 Elizabeth). (*Vide* Pedigree.)

JOHN HIGGS of Waltham, buried March, 1615, had two sons : the elder, JOHN HIGGS, yeoman of Lawrence Waltham, who borrowed money from his brother RICHARD HIGGS of that place, and from his wife's brother RALPH SMITH (*vide* suit in Chancery, SMITH *v.* HIGGS, 4 November, 1622, Series II, 383/80). By ELIZABETH SMITH, his wife, he had a son RALPH HIGGS, who became a carpenter and builder in the village of Lawrence Waltham. He married, and by his will proved in 1661 (P.C.C. "May", fo. 25) he had at least three children—a son RALPH HIGGS and two daughters, ANNE and MARY.

RICHARD HIGGS of Lawrence Waltham, who filed the suit against his brother JOHN for the recovery of his loan, had one daughter, ELIZABETH, who administered her father's estate upon his decease in 1676 ('Arch. Berks', 1 November, 1676). She became the wife of one named NEWBOROUGH.

Such is the fragmentary account of the HIGGS family of White and Lawrence Walthams. No doubt the parish registers of these villages would yield a good deal more information about these families and their descendants.











*1598.	—	JOHN HIGGS ( <i>alias</i> JENKIN HIGGS) of Basildon	" J " 388.
*1604.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Sulhampstead Banister	" J " 1353.
1612.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Lawrence Waltham ..	" L " 232.
*1617.	—	JOHN HIGGES ( <i>alias</i> REDFERNE), Gentleman, of White Waltham.	" L " 692.
1619.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Lawrence Waltham ..	Will.
1625.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Ashampstead ..	Will.
1639.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Hampstead Norris ..	Will.
1731.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Wallingford (and of Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxon)	" 22 " 189.
*1749.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Reading .. ..	" 24 " 190.
*1752.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Basildon .. ..	" 24 " 259.
*1725.	—	KATHERINE HIGGS (widow) of Basildon	" 21 " 281.
1633.	—	MARY HIGGS of Basildon .. ..	Will.
1710.	—	MARY HIGGS of Wallingford .. ..	" 20 " 33.
1722.	—	MARY HIGGS (widow) of Basildon ..	" 21 " 166.
1765.	—	NATHANIEL HIGGS of East Hagbourn ..	" 25 " 240.
*1583.	—	NICHOLAS HIGGES of Basildon .. ..	" G " 377.
*1573.	—	RICHARD HIGGES of Westridge, parish of Streatley	" F " 352.
1718.	—	RICHARD HIGGS of West Hanney ..	" 21 " fo. 6.
1523.	—	ROBERT HIGGES of St. Nicholas Hurst ..	" A " fo. 78.
*1540.	—	ROGER HYGGS .. ..	Will and Inv.
1733.	—	SARAH HIGGS (widow) of Wallingford ..	" 23 " fo. 1.
*1530.	—	THOMAS HIGGS of Wingfield .. ..	" A " 143.
*1556.	—	THOMAS HIGGS of Ashampstead .. ..	" D " 119.
*1598.	—	THOMAS HIGGS of Ashampstead .. ..	" J " 197.
*1637.	—	THOMAS HIGGS of Maidenhatch .. ..	" M " 454.
1637.	—	THOMAS HIGGS of Bradfield .. ..	Will.
1643.	—	THOMAS HIGGS of Long Whittingham ..	Will.
1766.	—	THOMAS HIGGS of Lambourn .. ..	" 25 " fo. 285.
*1633.	—	WALTER HIGGS of Basildon .. ..	Will.
1554.	Nov. 5	WILLIAM HIGGS of Shinfield .. ..	2 Inventories.
1573.	—	WILLIAM HIGGES of Lawrence Waltham	" F " fo. 393.
1589.	—	WILLIAM HIGGS of Bradfield .. ..	" H " fo. 293.
*1590.	—	WILLIAM HIGGS of Basildon .. ..	" H " fo. 315
*1608.	—	WILLIAM HIGGS of Bucklebury (Burghulbury)	" K " 483.
1613.	—	WILLIAM HIGGS of Swallowfield .. ..	" L " 422.
*1626.	—	WILLIAM HIGGS of Westridge, parish of Streatley	" M " 105.
1738.	—	WILLIAM HIGGS of Basildon (carpenter) ..	" 23 " fo. 140.
1745.	—	WILLIAM HIGGS of East Hagbourne ..	" 24 " fo. 68.

CALENDAR OF ORIGINAL UNREGISTERED WILLS IN THE ARCHDEACONRY COURT FOR BERKSHIRE, 1644-1710.

1684.	Dated 28 April.	EDWARD HIGGS of Bradfield ..	—
1686.	Proved 12 Jan.	ELIZABETH HIGGS of Abingdon	—
1689.	" 5 Feb.	ELIZABETH HIGGS of Abingdon	—
1662.	" 26 May.	JOHN HIGGS of Tilehurst ..	—
1665.	" 10 May (P.C.C.)	JOHN HIGGS of Streatley ..	—
1667.	" 16 April.	JOHN HIGGS of Basildon ..	—
*1691.	" 23 Nov.	JOHN HIGGS of Newbury ..	—
*1674.	" —	JOANE HIGGS of Reading ..	—
*1709.	" —	JANE HIGGS of Bradfield ..	Registered fo. 208.
*1662.	" —	NICHOLAS HIGGS of Thatcham	Ad. Will 25 Nov. and Bond.
*1665.	" 14 June.	RICHARD HIGGS of Sulhampstead Bannister	—
1705.	" —	WILLIAM HIGGS of Streatley ..	—





## CALENDAR OF ADMINISTRATIONS IN THE ARCHDEACONRY COURT OF BERKSHIRE, 1555-1767.

1571.		ALICE HIGGS of South Moreton	..	Adm.
1637.	19 April.	ALICE HIGGS and BARTHOLOMEW HIGGS of Bradfield (husbandman)	..	Ad. and Inv.
1609.	---	EDWARD HIGGS ( <i>alias</i> CHEYNEY) of Shaw	..	Ad.
1623.	---	EDWARD HIGGS of Basildon	.. ..	Ad.
*1708.	---	ELIANOR HIGGS ( <i>alias</i> WEBB) of Abingdon	..	Ad. Act. Bk. III, fo. 114.
1632.	---	GEORGE HIGGS of Reading	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. II 235.
1669.	---	GEORGE HIGGS of Purley	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 33.
1725.	---	HENRY HIGGS of Tidmarsh	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 129.
*1692.	---	JAMES HIGGS of Sulhampstead Abbott	..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 37.
1630.	---	JOHN HIGGES of Tilehurst	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. II 188.
1674.	---	JOHN HIGGS of Reading	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 34.
1743.	---	JONATHAN HIGGS of Pangborne	..	Ad. Act. Bk. IV 89.
1580.	---	MERRELL HIGGS of Binfield	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. G 215.
*1665.	---	MARY HIGGS of Thatcham	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 32.
1741.	---	MARY HIGGS of West Hanney	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. IV 89.
*1669.	---	NICHOLAS HIGGS of Swallowfield	..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 33.
1575.	---	RICHARD HIGGS of Westridge, parish of Sreatley	..	Ad.
1676.	---	RICHARD HIGGS of Lawrence Waltham	..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 34.
1682.	---	SAMUEL HIGGS of Reading	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 35.
1612.	---	THOMAS HIGGS of Basildon	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. II 93.
1624.	---	THOMAS HIGGS of Aldermaston	..	Ad.
1677.	---	THOMAS HIGGS of Bisham	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 34.
1736.	---	THOMAS HIGGS of Bradfield	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 130.
1680.	April.	WILLIAM HIGGES of Hagborne	.. ..	Account.
1660.	---	WILLIAM HIGGS of Basildon	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 31.
1660.	---	WILLIAM HIGGS of Wargrave	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 31.
*1685.	---	WILLIAM HIGGS of Midgham	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 35.
1728.	---	WILLIAM HIGGS of Reading	.. ..	Ad. Act. Bk. III 129.

## CALENDAR OF WILLS IN THE CONSISTORY COURT OF SARUM FOR BERKSHIRE, 1602-1763.

1606.	26 May.	HENRY HYGES or HIGGE of Basildon	..	Jno. Will.
*1763.	22 July.	JAMES HIGGS of Cold Ash, parish of Thatcham	..	Will.
1625.	27 May.	JULIAN HIGGS (widow) of Swallowfield	..	Jno. Will.
1692.	14 Nov.	LETTICE HIGGS of Bisham	.. ..	Jno. Will.
1753.	1 June.	RICHARD HIGGS of West Hanney	..	Jno. Will.
1602.	26 April.	STEPHEN HIGGS of Tilehurst	.. ..	Jno. Will.
1616.	16 July.	THOMAS HEGES of Wroughton	..	Jno. Will.
1661.	6 July.	THOMAS HIGES (or HEDGES) of Clatford, bachelor	..	Jno. Will.
*1717.	6 May.	WILLIAM HIGGS of Basildon	.. ..	Jno. Bd. Will.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Over the Chiltern Hills from Oxfordshire, between Chesham and High Wycombe, lie the parishes of Great and Little Missenden, in the county of Buckingham. The registers of Little Missenden commence in the year 1559, whereas those of Great Missenden do not begin until 1678, so that the ancient parish is that of the former village. It was in Little Missenden that a "Mr. S. HIGGES" (so described in the register) was living in the sixteenth century, and baptized his son NICHOLAS in April, 1598. At Spurling in this parish was also living at this time one NICHOLAS HIGGES, a yeoman, who probably was





a brother of this "Mr. S. HIGGES", and who had another brother JOHN HIGGES, whose son WILLIAM, NICHOLAS HIGGES mentions in his Will, which was proved in the year 1595 (P.C.C. "Scott", fo. 78). It is possible that Mr. S. HIGGES was not a brother, but a son of the NICHOLAS HIGGES who died in 1595. NICHOLAS HIGGES had a son ZACCHAUS, and a daughter JOANE, who became the wife of a man named BIGGE. The "S" in the church register may have been "SACCHAUS". NICHOLAS HIGGES of Spurling also makes mention in his will of ELIZABETH HIGGE, JUDITH HIGGE and ALICE HIGGE, who possibly were also daughters and sisters to JOANE BIGGE. No search of the registers has been made for further details about this family or their descendants.

The following abstracts have been taken from 'Phillimore's Marriage Registers,' being Buckinghamshire entries :

1609.	27 Nov.	RICHARD HIGGES and JANE LEWEN married at Pitstone.
1639.	21 Nov.	WILLIAM HIGGS and JOANE GODMAN married at Soulbury.
1643.	20 Feb.	WILLIAM BROKES of Wingrave and ANN HIGGS at Mentmore.
1646.	6 Feb.	TIMOTHY TURNLY and ELIZABETH HIGGS of Ascot at Mentmore.
1648.	30 Oct.	WILLIAM HIGGS and SUSAN FOUNTAINE at Cheddington.
1685.	21 Sept.	JOHN HIGGS and FRANCES COLLINGS at Pitstone.
1701.	9 Oct.	THOMAS BRACKLEY and SARAH HIGGS both of Buckland married at Cholesbury.
1716.	10 Mar.	EDWARD HIGGS and ELIZABETH VARNEY at Masworth.
1730.	12 Nov.	WILLIAM HIGGS and ELIZABETH SMITH of Wing married at Cheddington.
1745.	10 Feb.	JOHN NORWOOD and ELIZABETH HIGGS at Masworth.
1766.	2 Jan.	WILLIAM HIGGS of Wing and MARTHA WATKINS married at Mentmore.
1804.	17 May.	WILLIAM HIGGS and ESTHER SAMMS at Pitstone.





## CHAPTER XVI

## The Higgs Family of Cornwall, Derbyshire and Devonshire

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF CORNWALL (LANIVET AND LANLIVERY).

IN or about the year 1670 one WILLIAM HIGGS was fined for allowing a Nonconformist service to be held in his hall, in Cornwall, near Bodmin, contrary to the Conventicle Act. This is no surprising fact, for the family in all its branches has stood for religious liberty. This WILLIAM HIGGS had no doubt sprung from the old Gloucestershire stock, for the patronymic of HIGGS is by no means a common one in Cornwall, and must not be confused with the far more common surname of HICKS, HICKES, HYKKES, HIX, HEXT, etc. Occasionally, from the similarity in sound the name has been misspelt, but the families of HIGGES and HICKES are of distinct origin.

In looking through the Calendar of HIGGS Wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, not a single instance of a HIGGS is to be found in Cornwall prior to about 1797, so that this county was not a home of the family, though a family of HEIGS, who a century later spelt their name HIGGS, were settled at Eglosshaile, a village on the banks of the River Camel in the Hundred of Trigg, near Bodmin, in the latter part of the seventeenth century.

A family of HIGGS came to settle near to Bodmin early in the eighteenth century, possibly descendants of the above-named WILLIAM HIGGS, or of those at Eglosshaile. This branch became landowners in the parish of Lanivet, and have continued in this district down to the present time. From the parish registers, which commence in 1608 (and have been searched from 1670-1904), the earliest HIGGS entry is in 1784, when one JOSEPH HIGGS married CATHERINE BENNETT on 21 June. This JOSEPH HIGGS, whilst marrying at Lanivet, was "of Crift", in the nearby parish of Lanlivery, and it is evident also from the Lanlivery registers that the family was not settled there prior to this time.

The Lanlivery parish registers commence in 1600, and the earliest HIGGS mentioned here was the burial of one ELIZABETH on 20 December, 1779. In all probability the HIGGS of Lanivet and also of Lanlivery settled in these villages from Bodmin, into which place they had come with little doubt out of Gloucestershire, and possibly from Devonshire, as a JOHN HEYGGs died at Bishops Tawton in 1540, or from Wales. One RICHARD HIGGS of Lanhydrock was buried at Lanlivery 19 May, 1795. There is no doubt that the HIGGS family of Lanivet and those of the neighbouring parish of Lanlivery were one and the same.

WILLIAM HIGGS of Whistow, in the parish of Lanlivery, where he farmed, owned an estate at Fenton Pitts or Pits (in fee simple) in the parish of Lanivet. This WILLIAM HIGGS was buried at Lanlivery on 24 April, 1840, aged eighty-seven, and therefore was born about the year 1753. He married ELIZABETH —, and had a son WILLIAM, who succeeded him in his lands, in Fenton Pits, whilst his second son SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS inherited the Whistow property. This son WILLIAM HIGGS married NANCY (BREWER?), who was buried at Lanlivery 19 February, 1856, aged sixty-nine, and by her had four sons and two daughters. He mortgaged his estate at Fenton Pitts in





the parish of Lanivet to LORD ROBARTES, which ultimately was sold to his lordship by WILLIAM HIGGS's sons. The children of WILLIAM and NANCY HIGGS are as follows :

1. JOHN BREWER HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet Parish Church 17 August, 1817 · buried there 4 February, 1891.
2. WILLIAM HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet, 14 February, 1819.
3. SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS of Fenton, parish of Lanivet, farmer, baptized at Lanivet 23 June, 1822; he married JANE JULIAN at Lanivet 8 June, 1846, by whom he had ten sons and two daughters. SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS predeceased his wife by fifteen years. He was buried at Lanivet 13 March, 1885, whilst she was likewise buried there 7 March, 1900. The family of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS and JANE his wife are as follows :
  1. SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 30 December, 1847.
  2. THOMAS GEORGE JULIAN HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 14 August, 1850; buried there 2 July, 1851.
  3. THOMAS JULIAN HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 14 June, 1852. He married MARY WILLIAMS 26 November, 1881, and by her had three daughters :
    - (1) MARY JANE, baptized 18 November, 1883.
    - (2) ANNIE ELIZABETH, baptized 8 November, 1885.
    - (3) BEATRICE EMMA, baptized 31 July, 1887.
  4. WILLIAM GEORGE HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 8 October, 1857.
  5. PHILIP CLEMOW HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 13 June, 1860, and buried there 15 November, 1885.
  6. JAMES HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 18 May, 1863, and buried there 14 October, 1871.
  7. JOHN HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 29 February, 1865; buried there 9 February, 1866.
  8. JOHN HIGGS, second son of the name, baptized at Lanivet 11 July, 1866, and buried there 3 February, 1868.
  9. RICHARD HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 27 July, 1868; buried there 3 September, 1868.
  10. CHARLES BREWER HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 19 March, 1872; buried there 20 June, 1875.
    - (1) ELIZABETH JANE RESCORLA, baptized at Lanivet 9 January, 1850.
    - (2) NANCY SARAH ANN, baptized at Lanivet 18 October, 1855.
  4. PHILIP CLEMOW HIGGS, baptized at Lanivet 10 April, 1825; buried at Lanlivery 23 January, 1844.
    - (1) ELIZABETH ANN BREWER, baptized at Lanivet 21 April, 1827; buried at Lanlivery 27 February, 1828.
    - (2) NANCY SARAH ANN, baptized at Lanivet 18 October, 1855.

#### THE LANLIVERY BRANCH.

WILLIAM HIGGS of Whistow (1753-1840), the father of these two brothers, is said to have been a son of one PHILIP HIGGS of the parish of Lanlivery. There is no record of PHILIP HIGGS as father of WILLIAM HIGGS of Whistow (1753-1840), either at Lanlivery or Lanivet. As far as the compiler of this work can recall, this is the only family of HIGGS wherein this baptismal name occurs in the HIGGS family in general prior to the nineteenth century, with the one exception of PHILIP HIGGS of Lechlade, in the county of Gloucester, and this is worthy of note in endeavouring to discover the ancestors of the HIGGS of Lanlivery and Lanivet. It is also worthy of note that other baptismal names, such as "ARTHUR", "JAMES" and "LEONARD" appear in use in *both* these families, and there is little doubt that the HIGGS family of Lechlade were from the old Cheltenham stock.

From the parish register of Lanlivery, therefore, the second son of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS of Whistow, in the parish of Lanlivery, and also of Fenton Pits, in the parish of Lanivet, was—

SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS of Whistow, born in 1796. He farmed a number of acres in the parish of Lanlivery, which he leased, and he was a tenant during three lives. He





married MARIA OLVER of Morval and Tregalon, and dying in May, 1875—being buried at Lanlivery on the 18th day of that month—left a family of eight sons and three daughters :

1. JOHN OLVER HIGGS of Crift, in the parish of Lanlivery, baptized in Lanlivery Parish Church 11 November, 1823 ; he married MARY ANN TRELIVING, by whom he had three sons and three daughters. MARY ANN HIGGS was buried at Lanlivery 4 January, 1903, and her husband only survived her by three months, as he was buried there 23 March, 1903. Their family is as follows :
  1. JOHN OLVER HIGGS.
  2. THOMAS NICHOLAS HIGGS, baptized 22 February, 1852, at Lanlivery.
  3. ARTHUR HIGGS, baptized 24 January, 1858, at Lanlivery, and buried there 3 January, 1872.
  - (1) MARY ANN BOLTERELL, baptized at Lanlivery 17 May, 1845.
  - (2) AMELIA JANE, baptized at Lanlivery 14 January, 1854.
  - (3) EMMA JANE, baptized at Lanlivery 4 November, 1861. She married one named HERRING.
2. SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS, R.N. He was baptized at Lanlivery 9 May, 1825, and bravely served his country in the Baltic War with the Royal Navy. He married ANNE OUGH of Sandplace, by whom he had a family of six sons and six daughters :
  1. SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS, born in 1846 ; he married MARGARET HURST and died in 1907.
  2. JOSEPH INKERMANN HIGGS. He settled in the United States of America and became a naturalized citizen of that country and a member of the American Bar. He married KATE PENTREATH (*née* KNOCK), by whom he had one son :
 

HENRY JOSEPH HIGGS, O.B.E., A.M., J.P., B.A., M.I.Mech.E., and A.M.I.C.E., educated at St. Paul's School, London, and Magdalene College, Cambridge. He won distinction during the World War from which he was demobilized with the rank of Lieut.-Colonel. He is now (1933) managing director of Ransome & Marles Bearing Co., Ltd., Newark-on-Trent, and is also a director of the Projectile & Engineering Co., Ltd., etc.
  3. THOMAS HIGGS, born 1898.
  4. JAMES HIGGS ; he married FREDERICA SNELL, and became a master of the London School Board. He had at least one son :
    1. ARTHUR JOSEPH HIGGS.
  5. HENRY HIGGS, C.B., born 1864, educated University College, London (Scholar) ; University of Berlin ; and Senior Student of the Four Inns of Court. Barrister, Middle Temple, 1890 ; Entered Secretary's Office G.P.O. (Class I competition), 1884 ; transferred to Treasury, 1899 ; private secretary in turn to SIR SPENCER WALPOLE, K.C.B., Rt. Hon. R. W. HANBURY, Rt. Hon. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN, the DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE, and SIR H. CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN, Prime Minister (1905-8). Secretary to the Royal Economic Society and joint-editor of the 'Economic Journal', 1892-1906 ; Fellow of University College ; Newmarch Lecturer in Statistics, 1892, 1893, 1916-18, and 1923-26 ; President of section F, British Association, Dover, 1899 ; Special Commissioner to Natal, 1902-3 ; Inspector-General of Finance, Egypt, 1912-15 (Grand Officer of the Order of the Nile) ; contested Putney as an Independent Liberal, 1922 ; Lecturer in Economics, University of Wales (Bangor), 1925-29. Publications : 'The Physiocrats' (1897) (Russian translation 1899) ; 'Financial System of United Kingdom ; (1914), 'National Economy' (1917), 'A Primer of National Finance' (1919), 'Financial Reform' (1925), 'Life and Work of Richard Cantillon' (1931), Edited Jevons's 'Principles of Economics' (1905), 'Palgrave's Dictionary of Political Economy' (1923-26) ; 'Family Budgets' (with C. BOORN and E. AVES) (1898), and (with G. U. YULE) 'Giffen's Statistics' (1913). He is a member of the Saville Club, London, W. By his wife WINIFRED, daughter of the late T. J. SOUTH, whom he married at St. Luke's Church, Kew Gardens, 16 July, 1908, he has one son HENRY OWEN HIGGS (an Old Bodleian), born 13 September, 1912, educated at Radley College. He took the name of OWEN from his godfather, SIR OWEN SEAMAN.





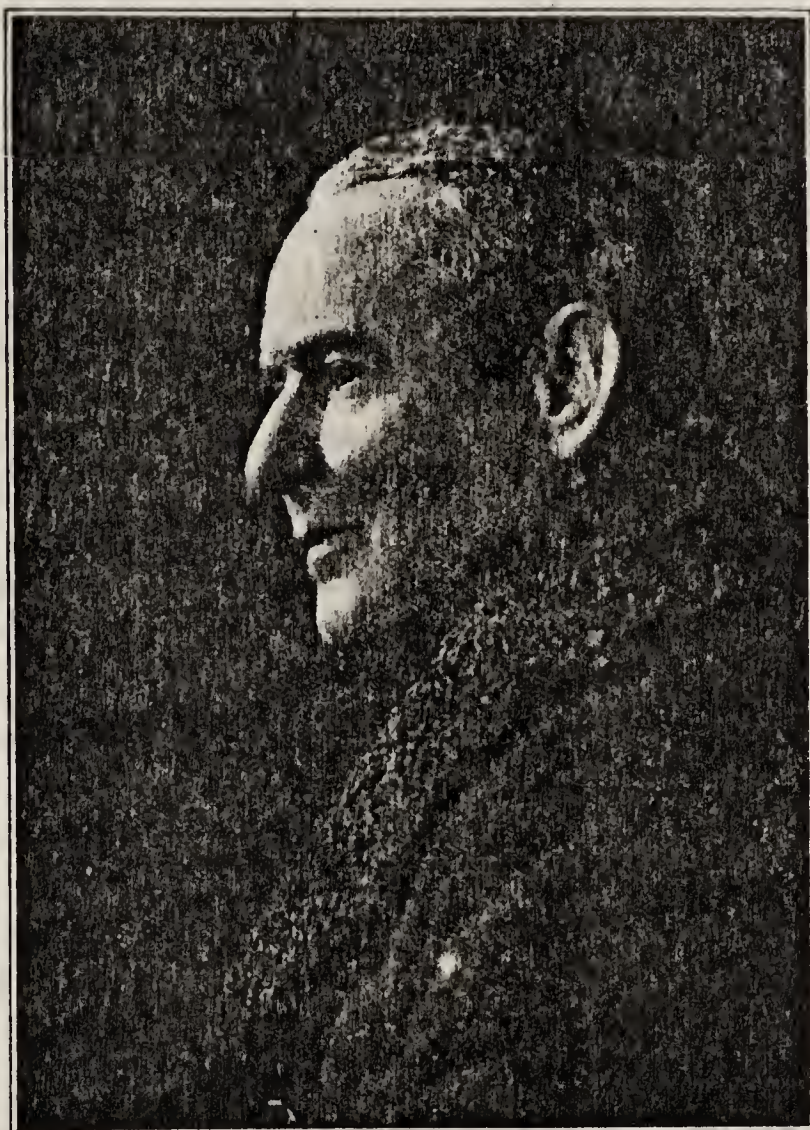
6. ARTHUR HIGGS. He married ADA NEWMAN, by whom he had a daughter :

(1) ADA.

(1) MARIA was the eldest daughter of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS, R.N., by ANNE OUGH his wife. She died in 1866.

(2) ELIZABETH, married J. CROCKER. She died in 1897.

(3) MARY, died in 1863.



HENRY HIGGS, ESQ., C.B., LL.B., F.S.S., OF RICHMOND,  
CO. SURREY.

*Yours sincerely*

*Henry Higgs*

A Jug made in Staffordshire in 1824 for SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS, grandfather of the above HENRY HIGGS, is in the possession of this grandson. This Jug holds two gallons.

(4) BESSIE MARIA, died in 1884.

(5) MINNIE, who became the wife of R. SOWMAN.

(6) POLLY, who married J. DUDIN.

3. The third son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS and MARIA OLVER his wife was WILLIAM HENRY HIGGS, baptized at Lanlivery 11 July, 1827. He married MARY ANN ROCKE, by whom he had two daughters :

(1) EMMA.

(2) EDITH.





4. JOSEPH HIGGS of Rill Farm, Lanlivery was the fourth son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS and MARIA OLVER his wife, and was baptized at Lanlivery 30 December, 1829. He married his cousin, ANN LUXTON (who was buried at Lanlivery 5 October, 1863), and by her had two daughters :
  - (1) EDITH, baptized at Lanlivery 26 July, 1860. She married W. SANDY.
  - (2) AMELIA ANNIE, baptized at Lanlivery 2 November, 1863.
5. RICHARD OLVER HIGGS of Lostwithiel, Co. Cornwall, baptized at Lanlivery 30 September, 1831 ; he married his cousin LIZZIE OLVER, and by her had two sons :
  1. HENRY HIGGS, baptized at Lanlivery, 1 May, 1860.
  2. BERNARD HIGGS of Lostwithiel.
6. THOMAS HIGGS of Higher Pennant, Lanlivery, was baptized at Lanlivery 14 October, 1835. He married (name unknown) and had issue three sons and one daughter :
  1. CHARLES HIGGS, the eldest son of THOMAS HIGGS of Higher Pennant, Lanlivery, was born in 1868, and was baptized at Lanlivery 12 May that year.
  2. ALBERT NICHOLAS HIGGS, baptized at Lanlivery 9 May, 1869.
  3. FRANCIS HIGGS, baptized at Lanlivery 6 September, 1884.
  - (1) EMMA JANE, who was buried at Lanlivery 6 September, 1884.
7. JAMES HIGGS, the seventh son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS by Maria OLVER his wife, was baptized at Lanlivery 11 July, 1837, and married ——— TREVAIL (?). He emigrated to New Zealand, where he took a farm.
8. PHILIP HIGGS of Whistow was the eighth son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS of Whistow and MARIA OLVER his wife. By his wife SELINA (surname unknown) he had a daughter :
  - (1) ANNA MARIA, baptized at Lanlivery 6 January, 1882.  
PHILIP HIGGS married secondly (name unknown) and had issue a son and two daughters by this marriage :
    1. LEONARD PHILIP HIGGS, baptized at Lanlivery 3 July, 1886.
    - (2) HELENA JANE, baptized at Lanlivery 22 November, 1885.
    - (3) FLORENCE ELIZABETH, baptized at Lanlivery 1 December, 1889.
  - (1) MARY MARIA was the eldest of the three daughters born to SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS by MARIA OLVER his wife. She was baptized 30 September, 1833, and became the wife of JAMES HICK.
  - (2) AMELIA, the second daughter, was baptized 27 September, 1839 ; buried 18 October, 1839.
  - (3) ELIZABETH, the third daughter, was baptized 18 June, 1832. She married STEPHEN GOLDSWORTHY, who emigrated to Curramulka, South Australia. She is said to have been one of the first white women to settle in Yorke Peninsula, and died in 1904.

The six daughters of WILLIAM HIGGS of Whistow and Fenton Pits by ELIZABETH, his wife, were :

- (1) GRACE, who married a farmer named POUND of Withiel, Co. Cornwall.
- (2) SARAH, who married a farmer named GILBERT, of Mangass, and by him had a son, JOHN GILBERT, who farmed at Restormel Castle.
- (3) (Name unknown), who became the wife of a farmer named WILLCOCK of St. Veep.
- (4) BETSY, who married one named GILBERT.
- (5) JANE, who became the wife of ——— LUXTON, a farmer, and by him had a son, W. LUXTON, who farmed at Dymonds, and a daughter ANN, who married her cousin, JOSEPH HIGGS of Rill Farm, Lanlivery.
- (6) CATHERINE, baptized 5 May, 1792, and was buried at Lanlivery 27 October, 1809.

(Note.— PHILIP, son of WILLIAM HIGGS of Northleach, Co. Gloucester, and grandson of ISAAC HIGGS of Northleach [who was probably a son of ISAAC HIGGS of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester—buried there 2 September, 1741], had a grandson LEONARD HIGGS. He also had a brother ARTHUR HIGGS.—*Vide* "Higgs Family of Northleach, Co. Gloucester".—W. M. H.)





# HIGGS WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS IN THE PROBATE REGISTRY AT EXETER.

## Consistory Court, 1532-1857 (8 only) :

- 1540. JOHN HEYGGS of Bishops Tawton. No. 84 Will.
- 1548. HUGH HEYGGS of St. Marie Mychall Exon. No. 239 Will.
- 1572. ROBERT HEYGGS of Buckland Filleigh. No. 226 Will.
- 1622. JOHN HIGGE, *alias* RAYNOLDS, of Plympton St. Mary. No. 282 Will.
- 1665. JOAN HIGGS (*alias* GREENE) of Gt. Torrington. T. Ad.
- 1692. JOHN HEIGS of Egloshaile (Cornwall). Will.
- 1735. JOHN HIGGS of Egloshaile (Cornwall). Will.
- 1761. JOHN HIGGSS (Mariner) of Penryn (Cornwall). T. Ad.

## Probate Reg. Bishop of Exeter, 1571-1799 (3 only) :

- 1647. ELIZABETH HIGGE (*alias* REYNOLDS) widow of Plympton. T. Ad.
- 1768. SAMUEL HIGGS of St. Kewe. Ad. W.
- 1787. GRACE HIGGS of Egleshaile. Will.

## THE PARISH REGISTERS OF LANIVET.

### Marriages, 1608-1904 :

- 1784. 21 June. JOSEPH HIGGS and CATHERINE BENNETT.
- 1792. 8 Oct. RICHARD HIGGES and ELIZABETH BRAY.
- 1830. 1 Nov. SAMUEL PEDLAR and SUSAN HIGGS.
- 1846. 8 June. SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS and JANE JULIAN.
- 1847. 28 Oct. JOHN DAVIS and JANE HIGGS.
- 1881. 26 Nov. THOMAS JULIAN HIGGS and MARY WILLIAMS.

### Baptisms, 1656-1904 :

- 1802. 3 May. WILLIAM BRAY, son of RICHARD and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
- 1817. 17 Aug. JOHN BREWER, son of WILLIAM and NANCY HIGGS.
- 1819. 14 Feb. WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and NANCY HIGGS.
- 1822. 23 June. SAMUEL NICHOLAS, son of WILLIAM and NANCY HIGGS.
- 1825. 10 Apr. PHILIP, son of WILLIAM and NANCY HIGGS.
- 1827. 21 Apr. ELIZABETH ANN BREWER, daughter of WILLIAM and NANCY HIGGS.
- 1829. 28 Oct. CHARLOTTE ANN, daughter of WILLIAM and NANCY HIGGS.
- 1831. 1 May. ELIZABETH, daughter of JOSEPH and CATHERINE HIGGS of Cadwin.
- 1834. 2 Oct. KITTY, daughter of JOSEPH and CATHERINE HIGGS of Cadwin.
- 1837. 1 Jan. WILLIAM, son of JOSEPH and CATHERINE HIGGS of Cadwin.
- 1847. 30 Dec. SAMUEL NICHOLAS, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1850. 9 Jan. ELIZABETH JANE RESCORIA, daughter of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1850. 14 Aug. THOMAS GEORGE JULIAN, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1852. 14 June. THOMAS JULIAN, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1855. 18 Oct. NANCY SARAH ANN, daughter of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1857. 8 Oct. WILLIAM GEORGE, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1860. 13 June. PHILIP, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1863. 18 May. JAMES, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1865. 29 Feb. JOHN, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1866. 11 July. JOHN, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1868. 27 July. RICHARD, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.
- 1872. 19 Mar. CHARLES BREWER, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of Fenton.





1883. 18 Nov. MARY JANE, daughter of THOMAS JULIAN and MARY HIGGS of Fenton Pits.  
 1885. 8 Nov. ANNIE ELIZABETH, daughter of THOMAS JULIAN and MARY HIGGS of Fenton Pits.  
 1887. 31 July. BEATRICE EMMA, daughter of THOMAS JULIAN and MARY HIGGS of Fenton Pits.

*Burials, 1670-1904 :*

1729. 5 Apr. JOHN, son of SAMUEL RIGGS (possibly HIGGS).  
 1829. 15 Mar. JOSEPH HIGGS of Mulberry Downs, aged 32 years.  
 1830. 11 July. WILLIAM HIGGS of Mulberry; aged 28 years.  
 1840. 19 Oct. WILLIAM HIGGS of Cadwin, aged 4 years.  
 1842. 27 Jan. JOSEPH HIGGS of Higher Cadwin, aged 57 years.  
 1842. 2 Oct. JOSEPH HIGGS of Higher Cadwin, aged 22 years.  
 1851. 9 June. ELIZABETH HIGGS of Church Village, aged 85 years.  
 1851. 2 July. THOMAS GEORGE JULIAN HIGGS of Fenton, aged 1 year.  
 1853. 7 Sept. RICHARD HIGGS of Bodmin, aged 87 years.  
 1866. 9 Feb. JOHN HIGGS of Fenton, aged 1 year.  
 1868. 3 Feb. JOHN HIGGS of Fenton, aged 2 years.  
 1868. 3 Sept. RICHARD HIGGS of Fenton, aged 4 months.  
 1871. 14 Oct. JAMES HIGGS of Fenton Pits, aged 7 years.  
 1875. 20 June. CHARLES B. HIGGS of Fenton Pits, aged 3 years.  
 1885. 13 Mar. SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS of Fenton Pits, aged 62 years.  
 1885. 15 Nov. PHILIP CLYMA HIGGS of Fenton Pits, aged 25 years.  
 1891. 4 Feb. JOHN BREWER HIGGS of Fenton Pits, aged 73 years.  
 1893. 19 Feb. WILLIAM GILBERT HIGGS of Fenton Pits, aged 35 years.  
 1900. 7 Mar. JANE JULIAN HIGGS of Fenton Pits, aged 72 years.

## THE PARISH REGISTERS OF LANLIVERY, CO. CORNWALL.

(Kindly extracted by Mr. Philip Higgs of Whistow, parish of Lanlivery, 1905.  
 Baptisms and burials only.)

*Baptisms :*

1792. 5 May. CATHERINE HIGGS.  
 1822. 18 June. ELIZABETH, daughter of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1823. 11 Nov. JOHN OLVER, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1825. 9 May. SAMUEL NICHOLAS, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1827. 11 July. WILLIAM HENRY, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1829. 20 Dec. JOSEPH, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1830. 23 May. CHARLES, son of WILLIAM and MAY HIGGS of Ponsmill.  
 1831. 30 Sept. RICHARD OLVER, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1833. 30 Sept. MARY MARIA, daughter of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1835. 14 Oct. THOMAS, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1837. 11 July. JAMES, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1839. 27 Sept. AMELIA, daughter of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1841. 17 Aug. PHILIP, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.  
 1845. 17 May. MARY ANN BOLTERELL, daughter of JOHN OLVER and MARY ANN HIGGS.  
 1852. 22 Feb. THOMAS NICHOLAS, son of JOHN OLVER and MARY ANN HIGGS.  
 1854. 14 Jan. AMELIA JANE, daughter of JOHN OLVER and MARY ANN HIGGS.  
 1858. 24 Jan. ARTHUR, son of JOHN OLVER and MARY ANN HIGGS.  
 1860. 1 May. HENRY, son of RICHARD OLVER HIGGS.  
 1860. 26 July. EDITH ALMA, daughter of JOSEPH and ANN HIGGS of Rill Farm.  
 1861. 4 Nov. EMMA JANE, daughter of JOHN OLVER and MARY ANN HIGGS.  
 1863. 2 Nov. AMELIA ANNIA, daughter of JOSEPH and ANN HIGGS of Rill Farm.  
 1868. 12 May. CHARLES, son of THOMAS HIGGS of Higher Penant, Lanlivery.  
 1869. 9 May. ALBERT NICHOLAS, son of THOMAS HIGGS of Higher Penant, Lanlivery.  
 1872. 10 Apr. FRANCIS, son of THOMAS HIGGS of Higher Penant.  
 1882. 6 July. ANNIA MARIA, daughter of PHILIP HIGGS.  
 1885. 22 Nov. HELENA JANE, daughter of PHILIP HIGGS by second wife.





1886.	3 July.	LEONARD PHILIP, son of PHILIP HIGGS by second wife.
1889.	1 Dec.	FLORENCE ELIZABETH, daughter of PHILIP HIGGS by second wife.

*Burials :*

1779.	20 Dec.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1795.	19 May.	RICHARD (son of ELIZABETH HIGGS) of Lanhydrock.
1804.	19 Aug.	SARAH (daughter of ELIZABETH HIGGS), aged 81 years.
1809.	27 Oct.	CATHERINE HIGGS.
1827.	27 Feb.	ELIZABETH ANN BREWER HIGGS, aged 1 year, died Lanivet.
1830.	25 May.	CHARLOTTE ANN HIGGS of Lanivet, aged 1 year.
1837.	27 May.	JOSEPH HIGGS of Crift, aged 77 years (b. 1760).
1839.	18 Oct.	AMELIA, daughter of SAMUEL NICHOLAS and MARIA HIGGS.
1840.	24 Apr.	WILLIAM HIGGS of Whistow, aged 87 years (b. 1753).
1843.	20 Aug.	MARIA, wife of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS, aged 44 years.
1844.	23 Jan.	PHILIP CLEMOW HIGGS of Lanivet, died aged 18 years.
1849.	17 Oct.	MARY ANN BOLTERELL HIGGS, daughter of JOHN OLVER HIGGS, aged 4 years.
1856.	19 Feb.	NANCY, wife of WILLIAM HIGGS, aged 69 years.
1872.	3 Jan.	ARTHUR, son of JOHN OLVER HIGGS, aged 14 years.
1872.	21 Feb.	WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS, aged 82 years.
1875.	18 May.	SAMUEL NICHOLAS, son of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS, aged 79 years.
1882.	6 Apr.	SELINA, wife of PHILIP HIGGS, aged 23 years.
1884.	6 Sept.	EMMA, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS of Higher Pennant, Lanlivery, aged 22 years.
1902.	23 Mar.	JOHN OLVER HIGGS, son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS and MARIA his wife, aged 79 years.
1903.	4 Jan.	MARY ANN, widow of JOHN OLVER HIGGS, aged 83 years.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF TREMATON.

The family of HIGGS owning a small estate in this place is one of the Berkshire branches. This estate originally belonged to one NICHOLAS ROBERTS, an official of H.M. Customs. This NICHOLAS ROBERTS had a son WILLIAM, who, dying childless, left Trematon Farm to his cousin CAPT. FREDERICK WILLIAM DALSTON, whose daughter SARAH ANN married WILLIAM HIGGS of Ratcliff, London, who was the direct descendant of WILLIAM HIGGS of Coleshill, Co. Berks, and so Trematon Farm came into the HIGGS family (*vide* "Higgs Family of Berkshire : Coleshill"). The farm is known as "The Manor Farm". It is now owned by JOHN FULLER HIGGS of Clapton, London. The farm house is very old and was built up from the ruins of the ancient manor house which originally stood upon the site, parts of which, with walls more than three feet thick, dating back about 300 years. The oldest deed goes back to the time of *Charles II.*

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF DERBYSHIRE.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF CROXALL.

There was a family of HIGGSES settled in Croxall, on the River Trent, just over the Staffordshire border, in the county of Derby, and but a few miles from Lichfield, at an early date. Among the wills preserved at Lichfield are those of JOHN HYGGS and NICHOLAS HIGGES of this place, the former under date of 1535 (Ref. 7*b*) and the latter 1559 (Ref. 169).

An interesting historical sketch of Croxall was written and published in 1881 under the name of RICHARD USSHER, and among the list of vicars therein given is the name of one GEORGE HIGGES between the incumbencies of RICHARD STANDYNOUGHT, 1538, and JOHN BENTLEY, 8 May, 1617, the patron of the living being Sir GEORGE CURZON. From





the parish registers it is found that in 1616 "GEORGIUS HIGGS, Vicarius de Croxall, sepultus fuit, octavo die Junii", or in other words that the Rev. GEORGE HIGGS, Vicar of Croxall, was buried 8 June, 1616, though in the list of Vicars he is recorded as having been buried at Alrewas 4 May, 1617 (possibly re-interred). Alrewas is about three miles west of Croxall, in the county of Stafford, close to Yoxall, and only a few miles from Tatenhill, where upon reference to the HIGGS Family of Staffordshire it will be found that families of the name were settled at this time. In 1631 the following entry appears in the Marriage Register of Croxall: "FRANCISCUS HEWGILL, *alias* PULSON, *de Edingale et* ELINORA HIGGS *de Edingale matrimonium contraxerunt duodecimo die Novembris*". We find JOHN HIGGES, in tenure of land, in Croxall in 1581, and mentioned in the Marriage Settlement of GEORGE CURZON and MARY LEVESON ('Wolley Charters', XII, 139, 6 February, 1581):

"Two cloves in Croxall aforesaid whereof thone is called the 'Pingle Meadowe' now in the tenure of ROGER KENSALL, or his assigns not exceedinge the nombre of Twelve yeares yet to come, and thother is called the 'Longe Close' at Croxall Lane, now in the tenure of JOHN HIGGES, or his assigns the lease whereof exceedeth not the nombre of fyve yeares yet to come."

Another reference to a JOHN HIGGS, possibly the last-named or his father, is found in a Latin document of this parish, which is a grant in 1530 by WILLIAM LARGE of Newebold Vordene, Leicestershire, to THOMAS SPROTT, and his heirs, for the sum of £6.6.8 paid down, of a messuage, garden, two crofts and half a virgate of land in Catton, now in "the tenure of JOHN HIGES, and which he inherited on the death of THOMAS LARGE, his father [probably means step-father], together with all the charters, writings, and muniments concerning the same". The deed also contains a power of attorney by WILLIAM LARGE, which authorizes ROBERT HYLLE and WILLIAM ASTON of Catton, jointly, or severally, to deliver possession of the aforesaid messuage, etc., according to the effect of the deed.

From the will of one WALTER HORTON of Croxall, dated 19 December, 1626, the following item shows one FRANCIS HIGGS, connected with Croxall:—"Debts owing to me WALTER HORTON: FRANCES HIGGS £35.0.0". The parish registers of Croxall have been printed in the historical sketch by RICHARD USSHER, 1881, Baptisms and Burials from their commencement in 1586-1753 and Marriages from 1586-1753.

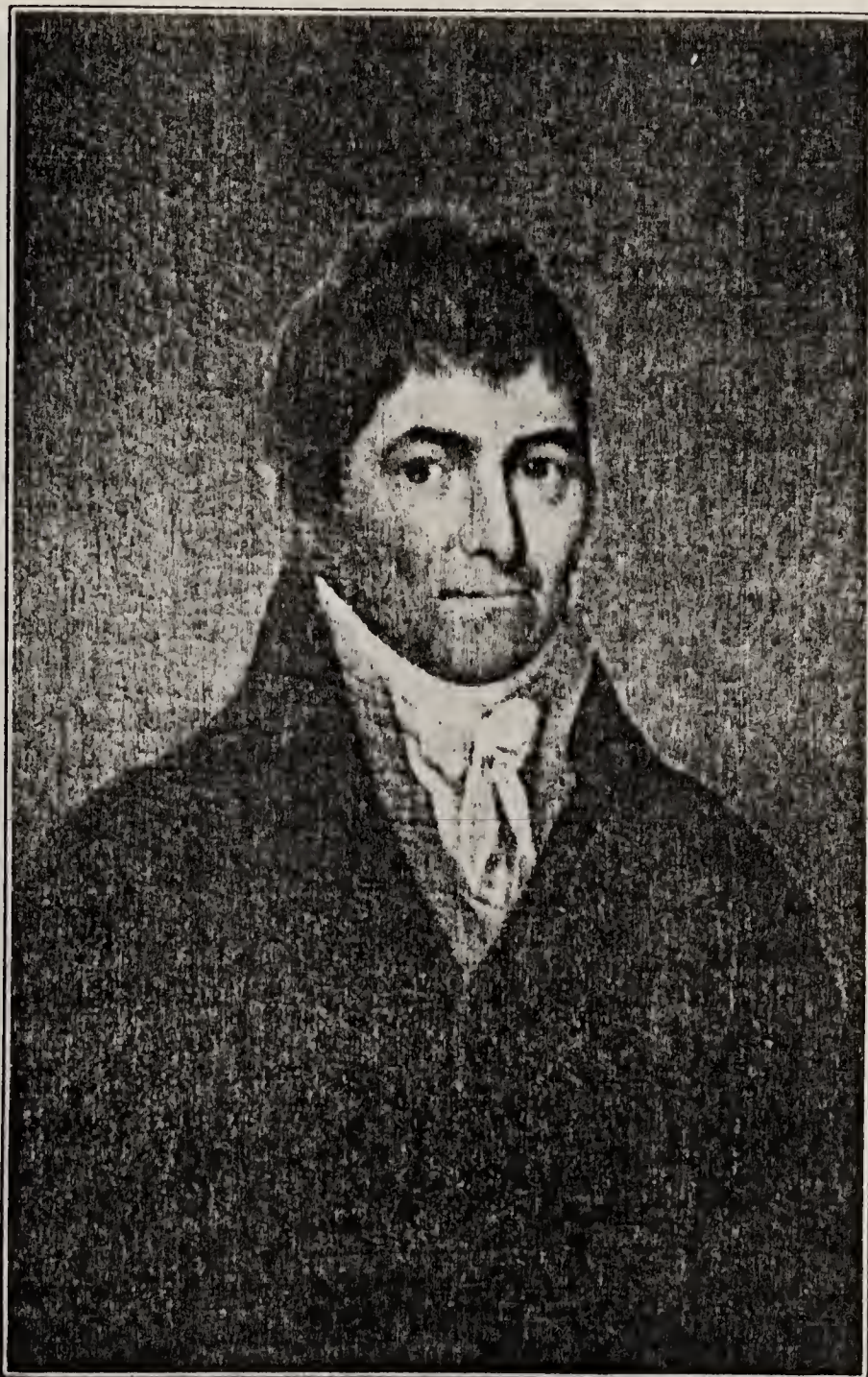
#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF EXETER.

Prior to 1624 one NICHOLAS HIGGE, or HIGGS, *alias* REYNOLDS, was a merchant of this city. This we find from a case in Chancery—HIGGE *versus* HIGGE—when on 23 November of that year NICHOLAS HIGGE, *alias* REYNOLDS, brought a case against his step-mother ELIZABETH, the second wife of his father JOHN HIGGE, *alias* REYNOLDS, and other of her relatives because they endeavoured to defeat and defraud him as executor of his father's estate, of his, the greatest interest in same, of money, and of household goods (*vide* 'Chancery Proceedings', James I, H. 30/29). His own mother was in all probability one of the family of HELE, or HEALE, of Devon, for he mentions his uncle SIMON HELE in this case. There were several armigerous families of this patronymic in the county. His father, JOHN HIGGE, *alias* REYNOLDS, had married this ELIZABETH WARRING (a widow) some little time previous to his decease. Why he assumed the name of REYNOLDS in lieu of his own has not come to light. There was an armigerous family of the name of REYNOLDS in the county of Devon (*vide* 'Harl. MS.' 4632). It is worthy of note that one Dr. REYNOLDS was one of the overseers of the Will of the Rev. Dr.





GRIFFITH HIGGS in 1659, a grandson of NICHOLAS HIGGES and MARY BARTON, his wife, but whether he was any connection of the Devonshire family of REYNOLDS is not known. NICHOLAS HIGGE, *alias* REYNOLDS, had land at Plympton St. Mary in the county of Devon.



JOHN HIGGS OF ST. KERRIAN'S, EXETER, CO. DEVON.

The fifth son and tenth child of JOHN HIGGS of Upton St. Leonards, formerly of Charlton Kings, Co. Gloucester. (From an oil portrait.) (1757-1816.) Younger brother of JAMES HIGGS of Upton St. Leonards, Co. Gloucester (born 1739), and uncle of WILLIAM HIGGS of that place (1778-1865). (*Vide* Illustration, HIGGS family of Upton St. Leonards and Charlton Kings, Co. Gloucester.)

It was this JOHN HIGGS who wrote the interesting "Sketch on the Career of NAPOLEON BONAPARTE" about 1815.

(*Note.*—ANNE HIGGES of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester, mentions "JOHN REYNOLDS and his wife" in her will dated 15 June, 1620, proved at Gloucester 3 September.)





## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF HOLSWORTHY.

Midway between the ancient towns of Bideford in Devonshire—where Kingsley wrote part of his 'Westward Ho!'—and Launceston in the county of Cornwall lies the picturesque old town of Holsworthy. Here it was that HORATIO SYMONS HIGGS,



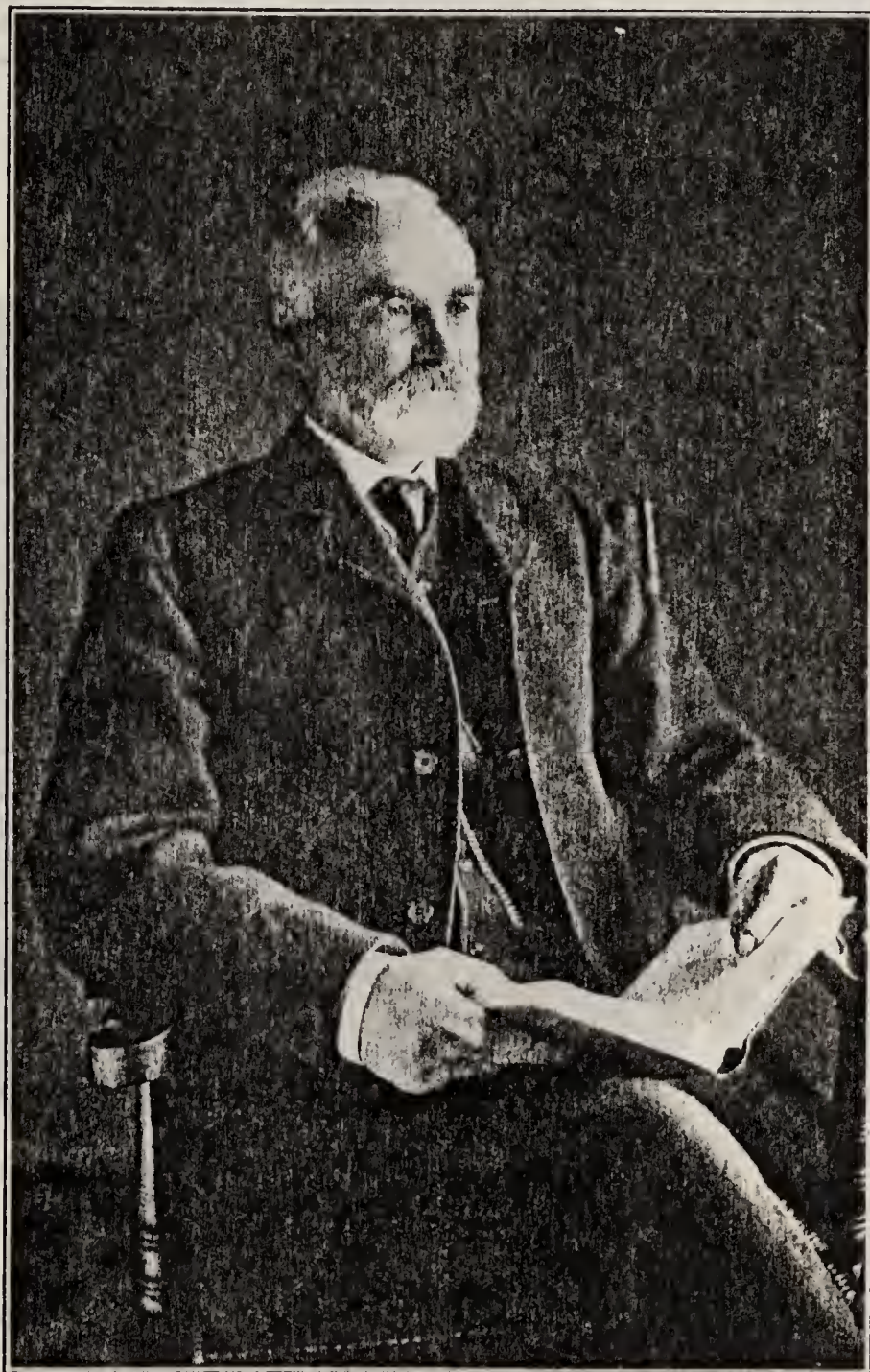
HORATIO SYMONS HIGGS OF HOLSWORTHY, 1798-1871.

the second son of JOHN HIGGS of St. Kerrian's, Exeter, by MARGARET COLLIHALL, his wife, settled in the year 1820. He had been born in Exeter, whilst the bells from the massive towers of Norman architecture of the ancient cathedral church were pealing forth the glad tidings of Nelson's great victory at the Battle of the Nile, which reached the City of Exeter upon the day of his birth, namely 26 September, 1798, and so it was that his parents named him "Horatio". His father, JOHN HIGGS, was the fifth son and the tenth child of JOHN HIGGES (or HIGGS) who lived at Charlton Kings, near Cheltenham, in the county of Gloucester, and who later settled at Upton





St. Leonards in the same county, where he was buried in 1786. This fifth son of JOHN HIGGS, of Upton St. Leonards, and formerly of Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire—JOHN—was born in the year 1757; settling in the parish of St. Kerrian, Exeter, he carried on an extensive business in the hat manufacturing trade (see "HIGGS Family of Charlton Kings"). On 26 July, 1786, he married at St. Petrock's Church in



JAMES HIGGS, Esq., J.P. and C.C. for DEVONSHIRE, of ELM TREE HOUSE, HOLSWORTHY, 1823-1905.

that city MARGARET COLLIHALL, and by her he had a family of three sons and four daughters, namely :

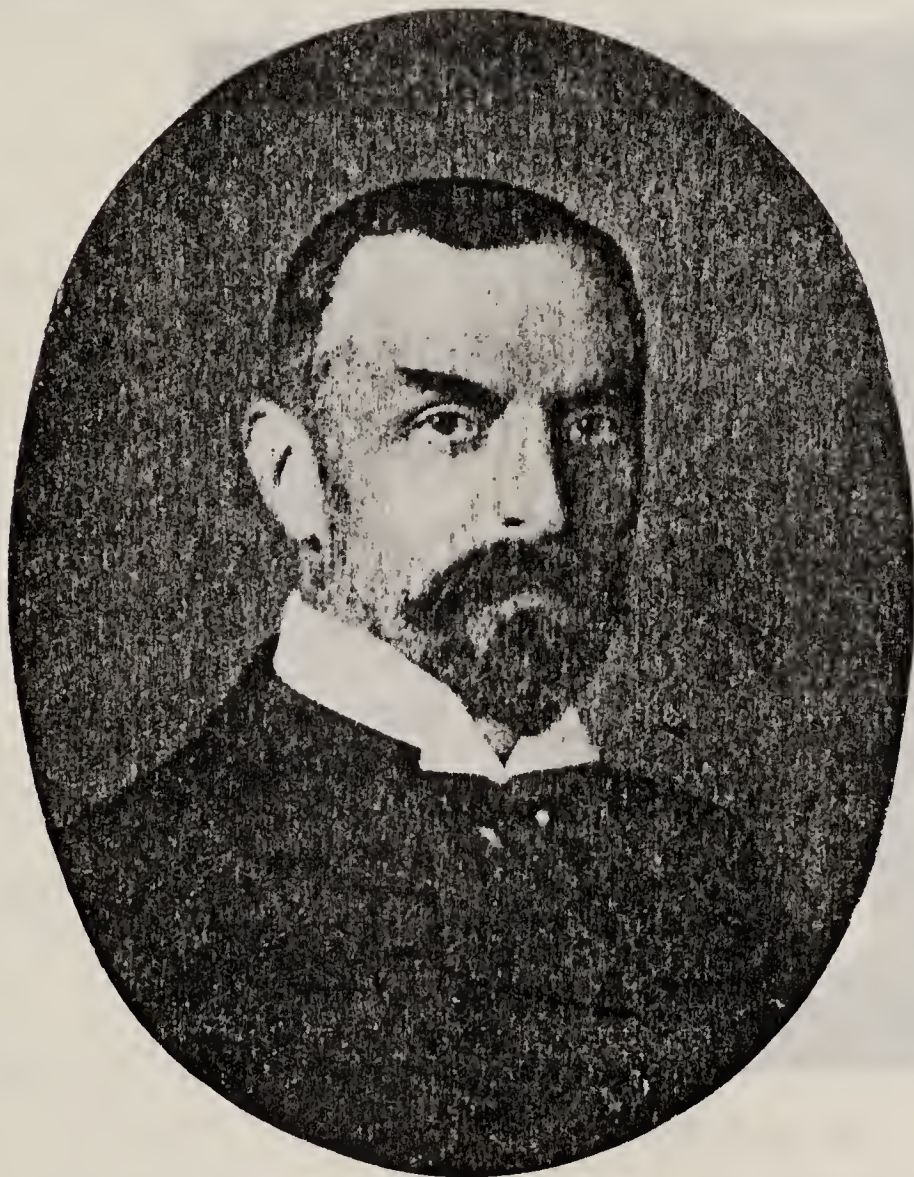
- I. JOHN SYMONS HIGGS, born 9 February, 1797, and dying in 1857, left by his wife BETSY, daughter of WILLIAM and JANE SNELL, two daughters, co-heirs of their father :
  - (1) ELIZA TONKIN (HIGGS) married HENRY VATCHER of Rosemount, St. Helier's, Jersey, Channel Islands.
  - (2) MARY JANE SNELL (HIGGS), born 27 November, 1826; she became the wife of her first cousin JAMES HIGGS, Esq., J.P., C.C., of Holsworthy, the elder son of





HORATIO SYMONS HIGGS. She was also first cousin of Lieut.-Col. SNELL, who was for many years the private secretary to Baron ROTHSCHILD. The SNELLS were an old Devonshire family.

2. HORATIO SYMONS HIGGS, born at Exeter 26 September, 1798, as previously related, was the first of the family to settle at Holsworthy. He married PHYLLYS C. TRELEVAN of a Cornish family, by whom he had two sons and two daughters :
  1. JAMES HIGGS of Holsworthy, J.P. and C.C. for the County of Devon, born in 1823 and baptized on 27 August of that year. He married, as previously given, MARY JANE SNELL HIGGS, one of the two daughters and co-heirs of his uncle JOHN SYMONS HIGGS of Exeter, by BETSY, daughter of WILLIAM and JANE SNELL, by whom he—dying 7 June, 1905—left one son and three daughters :



HORATIO (HORACE) HIGGS, ESQ., J.P. AND C.A. FOR DEVONSHIRE, OF HOLSWORTHY, N. DEVON, BORN 1859.

1. HORATIO HIGGS of Waterpark, Holsworthy (of whom later).
  - (1) BESSIE, born 29 May, 1855. She married E. R. BURY TORR, Esq., of Westleigh House, near Bideford.
  - (2) MARY, born 3 May, 1857. She became the wife of CHARLES TIERNEY ELTON, Esq., C.E., of Whitestaunton, Co. Somerset, and by him had a son HENRY ELTON, born 18 August, 1882. He studied medicine and became M.D., with a practice at Crewkerne, Co. Somerset.

(Note.—CHARLES TIERNEY ELTON is the fifth son of the Rev. WILLIAM TIERNEY ELTON of Whitestaunton, descended from JACOB, the third son of SIR ABRAHAM ELTON, Bart., and M.P. for Bristol in 1710 by his wife LUCY CAROLINE, daughter of Sir CHARLES ABRAHAM ELTON, the sixth baronet of Clevedon Court.)





- (3) FANNY, born 8 October, 1860 ; married the Rev. H. T. THRUPP, M.A., by whom she has one son—JOHN THRUPP.
2. HORATIO HIGGS. Died young.
- (1) MARGARET, married EDWARD HOW.
- (2) JULIA, married W. HOW.
3. ROBERT HIGGS, born 16 July, 1805 ; emigrated to Australia.
- (1) MARY SYMONS, born 10 June, 1787.
- (2) MARGARET, born 19 August, 1790 ; married one named W. PROCTOR of Bath, Co. Somerset.
- (3) ANNA, born 28 January, 1793 ; married WILLIAM SPRIGGS of Bath.
- (4) ELIZA, born 29 April, 1795 ; married WILLIAM BICKLE of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.



PHYLLYS MARY HIGGS, M.A.CANTAB.

HORATIO HIGGS, Esq., J.P., C.A. for Devon, of Waterpark, Holsworthy, and of "The Hermitage", Welcombe, North Devon, was born on 3 January, 1859. Like his father JAMES HIGGS, he became both a Justice of the Peace and a County Councillor for the county in 1905, and in 1908 was elected County Alderman. He has taken a very active interest in the Wesleyan Church in Holsworthy, worthily following in the footsteps of his greatly esteemed father and grandfather in this connection. On 26 July, 1894, he married SARAH LOUISA, daughter of ALEXANDER GREET, Esq., of Bradninch, Co. Devon, and by her has an only daughter and heir:

- (1) PHYLLYS MARY HIGGS, born 27 June, 1895, M.A.Cantab. She has devoted her life to teaching and in 1932 was appointed Head Mistress of South Park High School, Lincoln, being selected out of no less than 78 applicants by the Governors.

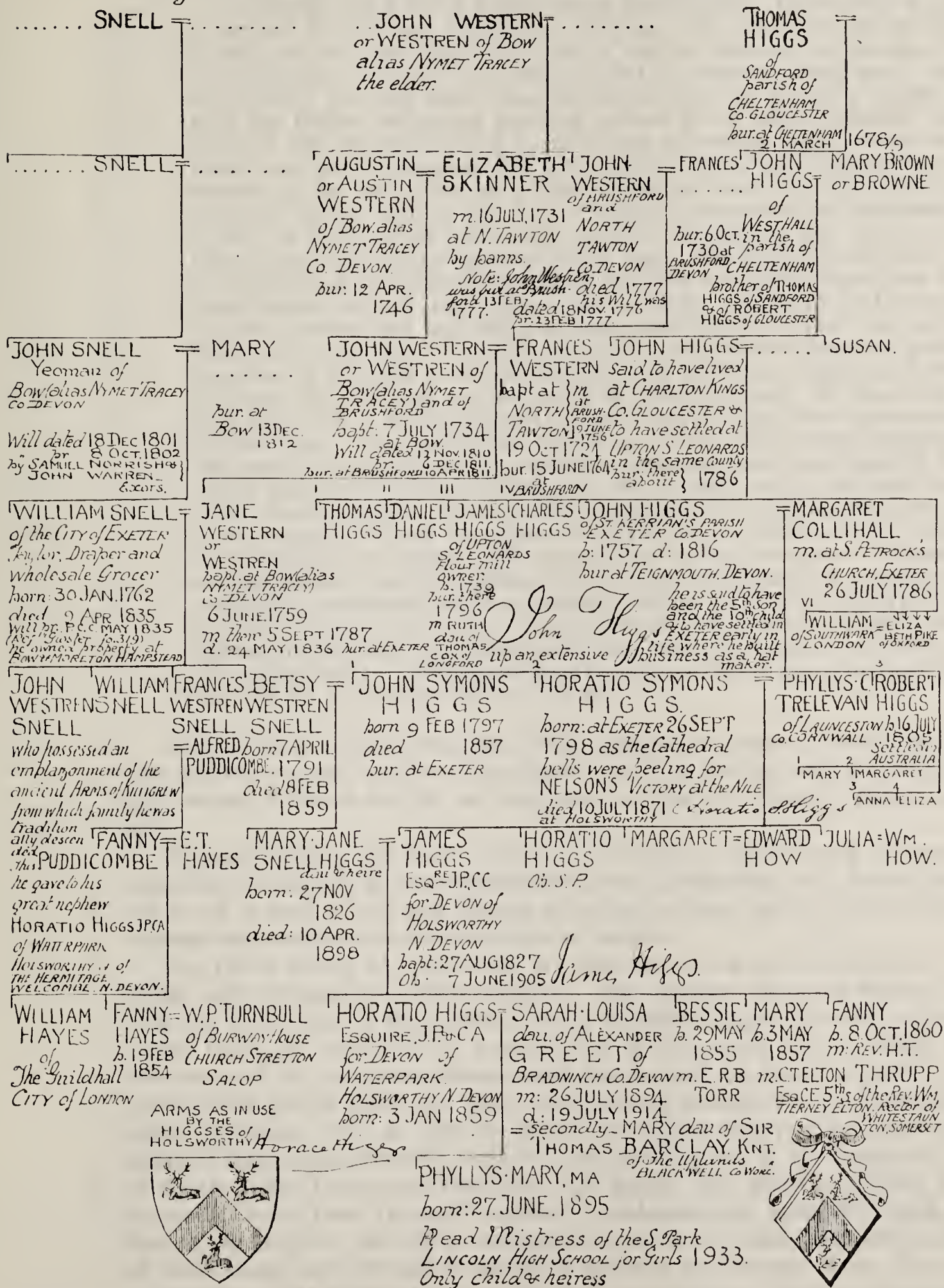
SARAH LOUISA HIGGS (*née* GREET) was born 2 April, 1858, and died 19 July, 1914.

HORATIO HIGGS married a second time MARY, daughter of SIR THOMAS BARCLAY of Birmingham, by whom he has no issue.





**PEDIGREE** *Showing the descent of the HIGGS FAMILY of HOLSWORTHY N. DEVON from the HIGGSSES of CHARLTON KINGS & CHELTENHAM G. GLOUCESTER & from the DEVONSHIRE COLLIHALLS, SKINNERS, SNELLS & WESTRENS*







Thus for four generations this family has been connected with Holsworthy. Upon the death of HORATIO SYMONS HIGGS (the first of the family to settle in this place), which took place on 10 July, 1871, the local press wrote of him :

" Saturday was a day of general sorrow in this place. The occasion was the funeral of the late H. S. HIGGS, Esquire, of this town. He was a member of the Wesleyan Society and for more than fifty years it was his pleasure and privilege to act as a local preacher. His chief enjoyment seemed to consist in doing good. Not content with readily relieving when want raised its voice, he anxiously sought out silent need, the further pleasure of affording comfort to his fellow creatures. Nor was his kindness and liberality limited to mere cases of extreme want, for object worthy of regard was sure with him to find a favourable hearing and a helping hand ; thus the response of Mr. HIGGS became a thing quite free from doubt in every case worthy the notice of the virtuous and good ; Butchers, Fishdealers and Fruit-sellers had only to say on market days ' Our goods lay on our hands ', and very soon he would relieve their stalls by giving relief to the poor. His liberality was not confined to the members of the Wesleyan Society, or the poor of his own Parish, but extended to many parishes without any respect to sect or party. Although the Divine Disposer of Life has favoured him with length of days, even three score years and twelve, yet the loss comes far too soon. Since the death of his amiable wife some four years since, the extent of his liberality is not known, as he ' did not let his right hand know what the left hand did '. Of very few men can it be more truly said, ' He never lost a friend or made an enemy '. All the shops of the town were partially, or completely closed during the whole day. The funeral took place at 11 a.m., and proved truly affecting, both from the extent and character of the procession, which was one of the largest, if not the very largest that has been seen in this place for the last fifty years. His death occurred only after a few days' illness. The coffin was preceded by the clergyman, the medical attendant of the deceased, the two Wesleyan ministers of the circuit with several other ministers and members of his Society. The bearers were six local preachers. His only surviving son and daughter with their children were the chief mourners. A long train of servants, workpeople, and almost all the respectability of the neighbourhood with the townspeople generally, mourned the loss of a discreet adviser, and a kind and sincere friend. The organist played some very appropriate funeral music while the corpse was carried in and out of the Church. The minister read the service with deep emotion and many a tear was shed for one sincerely mourned by all."

This obituary of sixty years ago, whilst being an example of such press writings of that period, and not written as obituaries would be worded to-day, clearly shows the high esteem in which the life and character of HORATIO SYMONS HIGGS was held by all.

Typical of many who have borne this patronymic, whilst being a strong Nonconformist by conviction, he was an example of true Christianity, kind, liberal and thoughtful for all in need of help and succour of no matter what party, race or creed, yet ever desiring that such acts of his should not be lauded.

The HIGGS family of Holsworthy are descended from the HIGGS family of Charlton Kings and Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. The present HORATIO HIGGS, Esq., J.P., C.A. for Devon has, at Waterpark, a much treasured family heirloom, namely a Bible which bears the signature of JOHN HIGGS of Gloucester, and in which he entered the name of his son JOHN HIGGS upon the day of his birth in 1608. All the old silver in the family bears the stag's head pierced through the neck by an arrow in bend—the same crest as was in use by the HIGGS family of Cheltenham, Charlton Kings, Colesbourne, Westhall, Sandford, and other places in the county of Gloucester, of South Stoke, Oxon, and Thatcham, Co. Berks. Mr. HORATIO HIGGS, however, is descended from JOHN HIGGS of Sandford, Gentleman, who married in 1563 ELIZABETH MACHEN or MACHYN, and who is mentioned in a deed 17 Q. Eliz. Sandford is in the parish of Cheltenham, and the line of descent is given in the account of the HIGGS family of Cheltenham and Charlton Kings in this work (*vide* " HIGGS Family of Gloucestershire ").





SKETCH ON THE CAREER OF NAPOLEON BONAPARTE BY JOHN HIGGS OF EXETER (WHO WAS BORN 1757 AND DIED 1816), WRITTEN ABOUT A YEAR PREVIOUS TO HIS DEATH.\*

"In the year in which Bonaparte began his career of Victory the great and good Washington closed his career of solid glory, by voluntarily retiring from power. The period when this once mighty potentate first appeared in the fields of Victory was in the spring of 1796, that the revolutionary government placed him at the head of their Italian army, when not 27 years of age. They had previously seen him on several occasions displaying great military skill and intrepidity, and at a time when rank and interest gave way to personal qualities, he was made a General. His new elevation was the commencement of his military career which had been distinguished by a train of success unparalleled in history. Like a blazing meteor he burst instantaneously on the eyes of the world; and from that period became the wonder and the terror of Europe. It appears that he was always of a thoughtful turn of mind fond of solitude and ardently devoted to the study of History and Military science. Enterprising steady and free from every excess the allurements of pleasure could never cause him to deviate for a moment from the paths of Ambition. Had his ambition been well directed he might have been the benefactor of mankind; but Providence had appointed him to inflict its punishments upon the ambition and selfishness of other potentates and then to fall by his own. About two years after his appointment to the Command in Italy we find him conquering in Egypt; and with a degree of duplicity which throws doubts over the sincerity of his most honorable declarations proclaiming that he and his Nation were favourable to the religion of Mahomet. In Palestine his career received a signal check; and in the latter part of the year 1799 having, by a daring effort, escaped from an English Squadron, he returned to France, accompanied by a few of his Officers. His rise had begun with success of the republican armies; their reverses contributed to accomplish it. The Government of France was changed and the General was raised to the rank of First Consul. In the struggle which accompanied this change a Corsican endeavoured to dispatch him with a dagger; and about a year after a deep laid and horrid plot was formed to take away his life but he was preserved for purposes of Providence not yet accomplished. In the next year (1800) he made a declaration, which had he taken it as his invariable guide would have procured for him a degree of solid glory, as well as power, which few Monarchs have attained, that 'he would fight for the happiness of France and the repose of the World' but ambition was the leading spring of all; and from the appointment of first Consul we find him advancing to the rank of Consul for life; and shortly after was made Emperor; and that nothing might be wanting to render his accession as august and imposing as possible the Roman Pontiff was brought to the French Capital (a circumstance unexampled in the history of Sovereigns) to perform the ceremony of his Coronation. This was at the close of the year 1804. During the next year in the short space of three months he completely vanquished the Austrian and Russian Monarchs and compelled the former to submit to a disgraceful peace by which two new Kings of his appointment were acknowledged and from that period he was for several years to be regarded as the sole source of the German Power. The succeeding year (1806) he dethroned the Neapolitan Monarch declaring his dynasty was incompatible with the repose of Europe. He placed one of his own Brothers upon the Vacant Throne and shortly after he made another of them King of Holland, destroying its constitution for that purpose. The same year the Prussian Monarch (whom jealousy appears to have kept aloof from the former confederation) made a futile effort to resist his power; and in less than a month he was crushed with that rapid impetuosity which marked all the movements of the Conqueror and bore down all opposition and he soon entered the conquered Capital in triumph. In the following year (1807) after a series of dreadful engagements in which human life was sacrificed by myriads, the Sovereigns of Russia and Prussia were compelled to make a peace with him which deprived the latter of nearly half his territories and his subjects and of more than half the revenues. The manifesto of Berlin had declared 'that there is a degree of ambition which nothing can satisfy which proceeds without intermission from usurpation to usurpation'. The discovery was made too late but succeeding events contributed to prove the truth of the remark in the most striking manner. In the year in which he thus humbled the Powers of the North another of his Brothers was raised to the Royal

\* From the original manuscript in the possession of HORATIO HIGGS, Esq., of Waterpark, Holsworthy, N. Devon.





dignity ; he himself began his warfare on British commerce ; and he declared that the House of Braganza should cease to reign (Spain) and he declared his proclamation in Spain, that 'God had given him Power and inclination to surmount all obstacles'. The next year 1808 he deprived the Roman Pontiff of his temporal power ; compelled the Royal Family of Spain to abdicate the Throne set up in their stead his Brother whom he had before placed on the Throne of Naples ; and filled with his Brother-in-law, who had been one of his Generals. In this year he declared in a Proclamation which he issued at Madrid that God had given him the ability and the disposition to overcome all obstacles and indeed it did almost appear as if Providence had for its unsearchable purposes given him a kind of human omnipotence. But this was known only to Him who ordereth all things. To human estimation it seemed as if he had not yet reached the summit of his worldly greatness. The next year (1809) the Austrian Emperor endeavoured to free himself from his yoke but in vain. After having been again preserved from death by that invisible hand which had not yet enough chastised the Nations of Europe, he declared that within two months he should be at the Austrian Capital. He accomplished his threat in less than three weeks and before three Months from the commencement of the War it was concluded by a Peace which materially increased the superiority of the Conqueror and subjugation of the conquered Monarch. At the close of the same year the various sovereigns of his family and other dependent Kings and Princes being present he dissolved his first marriage and in a few months after (just four years before the eventful period, when his power was finally destroyed) he solemnized his marriage with a daughter of the Austrian Emperor with all pomp and splendour which power could devise. From that time we heard little of him but encroachments on the liberty of his subjects and the rights of allied States : the freedom of the Press was violated, state prisoners were placed out of the protection of the law ; the executive and judicial powers were made to depend absolutely upon his Will, unheard of restraints were placed upon private intercourse, in short, he appears to have considered himself as able to effect everything, as independent of everyone and accountable to none. Into the subsequent events often marked by Victory but most commonly by the disappointments of his projects and the defeat of his armies it is unnecessary to enter. From the commencement of his expedition to Russia the circumstances must be fresh in everyone's recollection. If anything short of unrestrained sovereignty would have satisfied his mind he might still have been a great Monarch but adversity did not teach him wisdom. Having become careless of the happiness of others, profusely lavish of human life and ceasing to take into account anything but the promptings of selfish ambition, he seems at last to have reached that pitch of infatuation in which he could not even see the plainest dictates of common prudence ; he forgot that the nation over which he ruled was merely pressed down by his power ; and wildly rejected terms of peace which would have left him in the undisturbed possession of one of the mightiest thrones of Europe. In less than three weeks from that decisive determination, he ceased to be a sovereign and those Monarchs whom he had humbled were the spectators of his humiliation. Napoleon Bonaparte landed in the Gulf of Juan in France ; from Elba on the 1st March 1815, and entered Paris in triumph on the 20th. He left for the army on the 12th June, fought the Allies on the 15 and 16 and was defeated on the 18th returned to Paris on the 20 and abdicated the throne on the 22nd.

“ ‘THE LONDON GAZETTE,’ 21 JULY, 1815.

“ *Second Edition.*

“ BONAPARTE TAKEN.

“ We are happy to answer the oft-repeated question of ‘Where is Bonaparte?’ by the following ‘London Gazette, Extraordinary’, dated July 21st 1815. Foreign Office July 21. A dispatch of which the following is an extract has been this day received from Viscount Castlereagh dated Paris July 17 :

“ (*Translation.*)

“ ‘I have the honor to acquaint your Lordship that Napoleon Bonaparte not being able to escape from the English cruisers, or from the guards kept on the coast has taken the resolution of going on board the English ship *Bellerophon*, Capt. Maitland.

“ I have &c.

“ To Viscount Castlereagh.”

“ (*Signed*) LE DUCE D'ORTRANTO.”





## CHAPTER XVII

# The Higgs Family of Gloucestershire

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BEVERSTONE.

PEDIGREE of HIGGS of BEVERSTON Co. GLOUCESTER and some of  
their descendants

<p><b>WILLIAM HIGGS</b> = <b>MARTHA</b>. of BEVERSTON in the County of GLOUCESTER (near TETBURY) <i>It is not unlikely that he was a son of LAZARUS HIGGS who m MARY HARDING at CHIPPING SODURBY in 1756.</i></p>	<p><i>Note: She probably married secondly JOHN ROBERTS at BEVERSTON in 1812</i></p> <p><i>Probably brother</i> <b>LAZARUS HIGGS</b> = <b>ROSE HANNAH PERROT</b> BEVERSTON mar: at BEVERSTON 1814. LUKE died there 1843 d. there ..... 1852.</p>	<p><i>NOTE: St LAZARUS HIGGS was executor to the Will of his brother MOSES HIGGS of HORTON Co GLOUCESTER in 1706 HORTON was the probable home town of the BEVERSTON Higges</i></p>
<p><b>LUKE HIGGS</b> of BEVERSTON Cloth Weaver bapt: there 14 JUNE 1800 <i>Gave up weaving &amp; enlisted with the 3rd Regt of Foot Guards at Gloucester 1820 He served in Portugal with Sir He left the Army in 1839 &amp; in 1840 as Signallman and policeman</i></p>	<p>= <b>ELIZABETH ANNE DIANA</b> <b>FERRET</b> born: 1807 at born: 1809 at b: 1804 at PETERSFIELD HANTS BEVERSTON BEVERSTON m: 1828 at St Ann's Ch Soho Co. GLOUCESTER Co GLOUCESTER. <i>JAMES LINTONS Force which was sent to LISBON 1826-1828. entered the service of the Gt. W. RAIL Co at S. MORETON Co. BERKS. and died in 1858 at S. MORETON &amp; was bur there</i></p>	<p>born at 1831 BEVERSTON Ob. Inf. 1831. <b>ELIZABETH</b> born: 1832 at BEVERSTON</p>
<p><b>GEORGE HIGGS</b> born: 1830 at THREE RACE, LONDON. bapt. in ST. MARGARET'S CH WESTMINSTR <i>He became a member of the Metropolitan Police Force and afterwards was employed in the Royal Household at Windsor died 8/1868 at CLEWER Co BERKS</i></p>	<p>= <b>JANE ELDERFIELD LUKE HIGGS</b> mar: 1858 in the born: 1834 in ISLE of WIGHT (Osborne) the TOWER of LONDON <i>She was in the Royal bapt. in Royal Service at WINDSOR Chapel of ST PETER CASTLE ADVINCULA died: 1915. Reentered the G.W.R. Service in 1852 and acted as fireman to the Royal train</i></p>	<p><b>MARGARET FRANCIS ALEXANDER</b> <b>BEAUPRE HIGGS HIGGS</b> born: 1835 born: 1838 born: 1842 at HASTINGS in LONDON at SOUTH mar: 1859 at he mar. and MORETON Co. CASTLE BYTHAM lived in BERKS, d. 1917 Co. LINCOLN LONDON &amp; at WINDSOR died &amp; bur. at SWINDON 1925 left issue names unknown</p>
<p><b>ALFRED HIGGS</b> = <b>PRISCILLA DIXON</b> of WINDSOR Co. BERKS born at FINECILLY in 1863. <i>he followed the painting &amp; decora- ting trade. Now (1933) retired.</i></p>	<p><b>GEORGINA BURROWS</b> mar: at LITTLEMORE OXON 1887. born: 1869 died 1903 living 1933 bur. at SWINDON Co WILTS</p> <p><b>FREDERICK ROWLAND HIGGS</b> = <b>SARAH ANNE MARGARET DAISY EMMA</b> of SWINDON Co. WILTS born: at WINDSOR Co. BERKS 1869 <i>Entered the service of the G.W.R. as an apprentice in 1882 &amp; is now (1933) Townman of the Locomotive Dept &amp; Chief Mechan- ical Engineers Dept. SWINDON WAS</i></p>	<p>(1) <b>ELIZABETH ANN</b> (2) <b>SOPHIA</b> born: 1833 at BRYANSTON born: 1847 at ST. LONDON S. MORETON bapt. St Margaret's Ch WEST died &amp; bur there MINSTER d. bur 1851 at S. MORETON 1923</p>
<p><b>ALFRED HIGGS</b> born: 1895 at WINDSOR Co. BERKS. <i>He served in the Great War with the 4th Royal Berks Regt died of wounds at MANCHESTER 1915. buried at WINDSOR, Co. BERKS</i></p>	<p><b>EDITH ELEANOR GEORGINA ETHEL = .... HUGHES</b> born at WINDSOR, 1890, living at READING BERKS 1933. married.</p> <p>born 1890 at WINDSOR living there in 1933.</p>	<p><b>FREDERICK RUPERT HIGGS = FLORENCE GOUGH.</b> of SWINDON, Co. WILTS. born: there in 1904 <i>Employed at the Swindon Works of the G.W.R. Chief Engineers Dept.</i> mar: 1930 at St. Mary's Church RODBOURNE CHENEY Co. WILTS.</p>





**THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BRISTOL.**

There was a family of HIGGSSES in the nineteenth century living at Eastville, Bristol, of which family is the present curate of St. Augustine's Church, Even Swindon, assisting there the Rev. Canon H. B. HARVEY, namely the Rev. SAMUEL HIGGS. He was born at Eastville, and received his early education at the Ridgeway Church Schools, Bristol. His father was Mr. HENRY HIGGS, who was a son of Mr. CHARLES HENRY HIGGS. Of his ancestry no definite information has been gathered. It may be that CHARLES HENRY



THE REV. SAMUEL HIGGS, SON OF HENRY HIGGS, ESQ.,  
OF EASTVILLE, BRISTOL.

HIGGS was a son of CHARLES HIGGS, who succeeded to the old mill at Upton St. Leonards, Gloucestershire (born 1813), or of his brother SAMUEL HIGGS, born in 1816 (*vide* HIGGS Family of Upton St. Leonards and Charlton Kings, Co. Gloucester).

The Rev. SAMUEL HIGGS was ordained deacon at the Temple Church, Bristol, by the bishop of that place 16 March, 1930. Up to this time he had carried on a very successful business as an accountant in the city of Bristol, but felt constrained to give up his business career and to devote the remainder of his life to church work. He is the first business man to be ordained for the ministry of the Church in the Bristol Diocese. When he left





school he entered an office and subsequently took up accountancy. He then became a member of the Corporate Accountants and Vice-President of the Certified Public Accountants. Shortly before the World War he opened a private practice, then upon the outbreak of the war offered himself for service, but was rejected for active war service, and then devoted himself to the organization of scouting patrols at vital points in and around his native city. Before the Boards of Guardians were dispensed with he was a member of the Bristol Board. For many years he was a representative upon the Bristol Trades Council, and during the time when Mr. (now Sir) JAMES O'GRADY, Governor of Tasmania, was the Chairman of that Board. After the war Mr. HIGGS made a very careful study of the Rents Restriction Act and became an authority upon that complicated measure. For many years Mr. HIGGS not only took a most active interest in civic affairs, but was an earnest church worker, being a lay helper at St. Thomas's Church, Eastville; St. Michael's Church, City; St. Paul's, Portland Square, and St. Silas's Churches, and latterly at St. Bede's Church, Fishponds. He was one of Baden-Powell's first scout-masters, just after the movement was started over twenty-one years ago, besides being a leading spirit in the work of the Church Lads' Brigade in Bristol, in which organization he held a cadet's captaincy. The Archdeacon of Swindon, in the 'Diocesan Gazette', refers to Mr. HIGGS's thirty years of church work and says:

"Those qualities which have gained Mr. HIGGS such success in his profession will, I believe, prove equally valuable when engaged in work for the church in Swindon."

It is to be regretted that no more detail about this branch of the old Gloucestershire stock can be given.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF CHELTENHAM AND CHARLTON KINGS.

Cheltenham, one of the most beautiful towns in the county of Gloucester, and but nine miles E.N.E. from the county city, is noted for its medicinal springs and fine schools. It anciently was a parish consisting of the village of Cheltenham and its five surrounding hamlets, viz. Arle, Alston, Westall, Naunton and Sandford. Its name is said to be derived from the Saxon word "Chilt", meaning "an elevated place" or "a place rising to an eminence", and the German word "Ham", "Haam" or "Heym", meaning a "Home".

The ancient village and fine town of the present day might well be so designated, for the beautiful Cotswold Hills, rising behind the place, shelter it from the north-east winds. These hills, the watershed of the River Severn, are renowned for the fine breed of sheep which bear this name, and from the earliest times have been the home of the yeoman farmer and husbandman. It was in these hills that early tribes of Frisians are said to have settled in the fifth century, about the same time as the Angles and the Saxons came into England.

A striking name of one of these tribes was "Iggs", whilst another similar in sound was that of the "Hwiccas", and whilst we have no proof, it requires no great stretch of imagination to conjecture a possible origin of the patronymics HIGGS and HICKS, both of which families were settled in this locality at an early date. From their likeness in sound the two patronymics have frequently become confused and misspelt, though the families are generally conceded to be of quite distinct origin. Among the earliest forms of the name of HIGGS, which before the sixteenth century was of double syllable, are HIGGIS, HYGGYS, HIGGES, HEGGES, HEGGYS, HEYGHEZ, HUGGES, etc., whilst the patronymic of "HICKS" is found as HICKES, HYCKES, HYKKES, HYKKAS, HYKKIS, etc. Some authorities claim that "HIGGS" is derived from a Saxon word meaning "a wild ash tree", and that "HICKS" comes from the name "ISAAC". The surname of HEGGS is found in Scandinavia at the present time, and the origin of





HIGGS may therefore be Norse. Mr. L'Estrange Ewen, in his recent and clever work upon British surnames, gives "HIGGS" as coming from an old English personal name, "HYGE", meaning "Courage".

It will be remembered that the HIGGS Family of South Stoke, Oxfordshire, are stated to have been "descended from a noble branch of the HIGGS family living near Gloucester", and the mural tablet to the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS in St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke, bears witness to this fact. There was undoubtedly a family of HIGGS living in and around Cheltenham at an early date possessed of considerable lands and wealth, and as will be seen later, the HIGGS Family of Colesbourne, a parish six miles from Cheltenham, descendants of the Cheltenham stock, were of armigerous status, and the Arms in use by the family were in 1623 confirmed to THOMAS HIGGES, Esqre., of that place. The Cheltenham HIGGES were allied by marriage to such well-known Gloucestershire families as the SANFORDS or SANDFORDS, the STEPHENS of Eastington, the PATES of CHARLTON KINGS, the MACHENS, CARTWRIGHTS, ATKINS, PACKERS, LANES, etc., and much of the HIGGES estate in Cheltenham is stated to have come into the family by the marriage of JOHN HIGGES with JULIANA DE SANDFORD, an heiress of that family.

As with all families, not every branch is of the same social status, either in land, wealth or occupation; so with the HIGGS family of Cheltenham, and the many branches which have sprung from the one and the same stock, we find the landed proprietor, the clergyman, the yeoman farmer, the husbandman, the tradesman, the artisan and the farm labourer.

In Cheltenham churchyard is a nineteenth century tombstone to one member of this ancient stock, a local butcher, which reads:

" Here lies JOHN HIGGS  
A famous man for killing pigs,  
For killing pigs was his delight  
Both morning, afternoon and night.  
Both heats and colds he could endure,  
Which no physician could e'er cure;  
His knife is laid, his work is done,  
I hope to Heaven his soul is gone."

JOHN HIGGS died in 1825.

In this we have an amusing epitaph to the village tradesman. In Charlton Kings' Churchyard, just a mile away from Cheltenham, the seventeenth century tomb of WALTER HIGGS, an officer in the army of *King Charles I*, whose second wife was ELIZABETH PATE, of a prominent family upon the Royalist side in the Civil War, forms a striking contrast in the fortunes of members of the same family in different periods (*vide* illustration, Chapter II).

The parish church of Cheltenham was built in 1011. There was formerly a chantry in this church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which has now fallen to decay. From the 'History of Cheltenham', published in 1803 by H. Ruff, it is stated that the benefice of the Rectory is an endowed curacy:

" In 1133 the impropriation was vested in the Abbey of Cirencester. At the dissolution of the monasteries it reverted to the Crown, and was granted in lease to SIR HENRY JERNINGHAM, May 22, 1560. On the 10th day of May 1592 to WILLIAM GREENWELL: on the 15th day of February following to RICHARD STEPHENS (of Eastington) and on the 17th day of February 1597 to SIR FRANCIS BACON, knight, in consideration of £75.13.4. ELIZABETH BADGER, or BAGHOTT (or BAGOT), widow, became lessee of the Rectory. She was the former wife of THOMAS HIGGES, Lessee of the Rectory, and later the wife of H. BAGOT. In 1609, on information of HENRY PARRY, Lord Bishop of Gloucester, that the stipend allowed to two reading ministers, and two lay deacons, was but ten





pounds, and forty shillings and eight pence a year to each, the bishop came to Cheltenham and preached ; but the impropriatrix continuing obstinate, a petition was presented to LORD SALISBURY, then secretary of State, that a chaplain might be appointed to either parish. By the mediation of THOMAS STEPHENS, Esquire, attorney-general to Prince Charles, it was compromised for the time, the sub-lessee allowing the privy tithes for the payment of the stipends. But the covenants being again infringed, the parishioners petitioned the LORD CHANCELLOR BACON, the lessee of the Crown, stating that by the allowing only of twenty pounds to two chaplains, and refusing to supply the sacramental bread and wine, 6000 communicants were deprived. The attainder of the Chancellor prevented the due effect of the remonstrance and a further application was made to the King, with reference to the Diocesan, and LORD KEEPER WILLIAMS. In 1624, when the appropriation was granted to SIR BAPTIST HICKS, a decree in Chancery was obtained, by which the impropriator is bound to allow a salary of £40.0.0 each to the officiating minister of either parish. This arrangement being made, SIR BAPTIST HICKS invested the Principal and Fellows of Jesus College, Oxford with the nomination, subjected to definite restrictions."

There have been a number of suits in Chancery over the Cheltenham Rectory and the Chapelry of Charlton Kings, in which the HIGGES family have been participants (*vide* 'Chancery Proceedings', Series II).

From the "Memoirs of old Charlton Kings", which were written in 1896 for the 'Charlton Kings Parish Magazine', by *Clarence M. Dobell*, a printed copy of which, in book form, was published in 1898 by Messrs. Norman Sawyer & Co., St. George's Hall, Cheltenham, the following fuller information about the church property of which the HIGGES family were lessees has been gathered :

"On the Dissolution of the Monasteries, the Church property was divided in various ways ; some went to endow new churches, hospitals and schools, but by far the greater portion of it was divided between the great Nobles and the King, and in many cases—as at Tewkesbury—the Abbey churches were actually sold back again to the congregations who had been accustomed to use them as churches. The Church property at Cheltenham and Charlton reverted to the Crown, and after being held by HENRY VIII, EDWARD VI, MARY and ELIZABETH, it was in February 1597 given by QUEEN ELIZABETH to FRANCIS BACON, Lord Verulam, the great philosopher and Lord Chancellor, subject to various conditions and charges, and he sub-let it to the family of HIGGS."

Under this complicated system great complaint was made that the sub-lessees were realizing a large income from the land, etc., but were underpaying the clergy. Letters were written on behalf of the parishioners asking for more curates, and that the existing clergy should be better paid ; but LORD BACON in some rather amusing letters referred the people back to the sub-lessees, who, he said, had paid him very little for their rights, and were said to be making a large profit. Proceedings in Chancery were taken, the case lasting over twenty years, and resulting in an order that £80 per annum should be equally divided between the Rectory of Cheltenham and the Chapelry of Charlton. Meanwhile, on the fall of the Lord Chancellor BACON, the Church property and impropriation were granted by the Crown to SIR BAPTIST HICKS, afterwards VISCOUNT CAMPDEN, and ancestor of SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, Bt.

The property had evidently been a very large one, as its vague description fills a page of the conveyance : Messuages, granges, houses, barns, meadows, orchards, gardens, enclosures, fishings, stock and cattle of all kinds are enumerated, but *not specified*, besides tithes of wool, hay, grain and innumerable rights of fines, heriots, and profits, as well as spiritual and temporal.

But all this seems to have been allowed to slip away, probably into the hands of local tenants, who, having settled on the grounds, could not be dispossessed.

The fact was that the Roman Catholic Church, previous to its fall, had so misused its great privileges and possessions that the reaction caused the bulk of the people to be





entirely indifferent to the Church endowments. At this period, 1612 to 1635, not only most of the middle classes, but quite half of the House of Lords, were what we should now call "Dissenters". The great Lords had taken the large estates, and the Squires followed their example and took the small farms, and no one cared to interfere.

Throughout England the system of spoliation thus begun was continued into the nineteenth century, as a matter of legal course by landowners and lawyers who were also professed churchmen. It is probable that it is no exaggeration to say that if the church property at Cheltenham and Charlton Kings had been preserved for its original purposes, the combined income would now amount to at least £10,000 a year.

On 24 March, 1635, the decree in Chancery was at last agreed to and confirmed by LORD CAMPDEN, who, to prevent further dispute as to the appointment of the clergy, granted to the Fellows of Jesus College, Oxford, an annual rent of £80 from the Rectory hands to be equally divided between Cheltenham and Charlton. Jesus College was to nominate *three Masters of Arts, who were Fellows of that College*, for any vacancy that occurred, from whom LORD CAMPDEN and his heirs were to select one. The ministers were to remain unmarried, and to hold the appointment for six years. The consequence of this arrangement was that as Jesus College is the Welsh College of Oxford, a succession of unmarried Welsh clergymen ministered in the churches at Charlton and Cheltenham from 1635 to a few years ago. It may be of interest here to note that later the Rev. ALBERT CHARLES HIGGS (son of CHARLES POWELL HIGGS, Esq., of Charlton Kings), who was born 22 August, 1851, and died 1 June, 1883, was Curate-in-charge of the Church of the Holy Apostles at Charlton Kings. CHARLES POWELL HIGGS, his father, was born in 1808 and died in 1890.

From the HIGGS family the Impropriation passed to LORD ESSEX and JOHN DELABERE, and their representatives, in the beginning of the nineteenth century, sold the Rectory of Cheltenham to Mr. JOSEPH PITT, and the impropriate Chapelry and Tithes of Charlton to Mr. JOHN WHITHORNE, who by his will devised them to CONWAY WHITHORNE LOVESY. Mr. PITT, by an exchange of another living with Jesus College, Oxford, secured the sole nomination of Cheltenham and resold it to the Simeon Trustees. Mr. LOVESY, on the contrary, *sold to Jesus College the right to select as well as to nominate the clergy for Charlton Kings*. The arrangement to secure a fairer payment to the clergy of Charlton and Cheltenham was mainly due to the strenuous exertions of Mr. JOHN STUBBES, who was Steward of the Manor of Cheltenham, and who lived at Charlton Kings. This man appears to have been a leading resident at Charlton Kings and to have been engaged in frequent correspondence with *Charles I* and his ministers.

During the great Civil War, Cheltenham and Charlton Kings were held as Royal property. These places were then crowded with Royalists, and by *Prince Rupert's* cavalry. . . . Leaning against the south porch of Charlton Church there is still a gravestone bearing an epitaph to "NICHOLAS VAUX 1643", who is said to have been killed at the fight on Battledown, and there is a tradition that WALTER HIGGS (son of WALTER HIGGS of Charlton Kings), an officer in the Royalist Army, and CONWAY WHITHORNE were both present at that battle (*vide* illustration of the tomb of WALTER HIGGS in Chapter II).

The following references to the HIGGS Family from the Court Rolls of the Manors in Cheltenham are decidedly interesting as proof of the settlement of this family in this locality in the early part of the fourteenth century :

Court Roll 175/25, Mem. 6 : Cheltenham—Westhall or Westale.

Court held on Saturday after St. Augustine (7 Edward III), 1333.

"The tithing man presents that JOHN HUGGES drew blood from MARGERY SCHOR and was fined 3d."

"JOHN GOLDE is at his law against JOHN HUGGES to prove that he did not trample down his grass at Westhall."





Court held on Saturday after St. Matthew the Apostle (7 Edward III).

"The tithing man presents that ALICE HUGGES and others have brewed against the assize and were fined 4d."

The spelling of the name "HUGGES" is unquestionably an ancient form of the name. The village of HIGFORD in Shropshire was anciently spelt HUGGEFORD.

In the tenth year of the reign of *King Henry VII*, namely 1495, we find that at a Court held at Cheltenham with a view to frankpledge on the Monday after the Feast of St. Mark the Evangelist, the twelve jurors then present stated upon their oath that "WILLIAM HYCKES and other, common fishers there broke the assize and was in mercy 2d". This form of spelling *may* refer to one of this family of HIGGS, but it is far more likely to be an early spelling of one of the HICKS family found frequently in the county, and quite distinct as a family from the HIGGS. It is not until 1520 that we again find the name "HIGGS" mentioned in the Court Rolls, when in that year and on to 1529 the names of JOHN HYGGES (HIGGES) and WALTER HIGGES, also THOMAS HIGGES appear.

Court Roll 175/27 (now in the Public Record Office, London).

Mem. 2, d: Cheltenham, Westall (12 Henry VIII): "View of Frankpledge with court held 1 October, 1520."

JOHN HYGGES was one of the Jurors; and "JOHN HYGGES was elected to the office of Tithing man and sworn".

Mem. 7: At a Court held 17 January, 1521 (12 Henry VIII).

"JOHN HYGGES, one of the tenants witnessing a transfer of copyhold land."

Mem. 8, d: At a Court held 8 August, 1521 (12 Henry VIII).

JOHN HYGGES again a witness.

Mem. 9: At a Court with view of Frankpledge held 28 November, 1527 (19 Henry VIII).

JOHN HYGGES again a Jurymen.

Mem. 10: At a Court held with view of Frankpledge 4 June, 1528 (20 Henry VIII).

JOHN HYGGES again on the Jury.

Bafford Tithing: A stray was mentioned as in the keeping of JOHN HICKES. (Here the name it would appear was misspelt and should have been HYGGES.) Bafford is still the name of a house at Charlton Kings.

Westhall Tithing: "JOHN HIGGES was fined 6d., for keeping beasts in a cornfield called 'Samfordes' Fields' at large and untethered."

JOHN HIGGS is mentioned as at the head of the list of tenants appointed to view the bounds of a certain field at Kyngeshame in the tithing of Sanford.

Mem. 11: At a Court held of the Abbess of Cheltenham 15 September, 1528 (20 Henry VIII).

"Attended JOHN LOVEAR and JOHN GIFFORD tenants of the Manor saying that WALTER MATHEWE gave to JOHN HYGGES *one close in Naunton and 43 'rugges' of land in Naunton Field, in the tithing of Westall* to be held by him for the term of the life of the said WALTER MATHEWE and for 12 years after his death he paying 5/- yearly during WALTER MATHEWE's life and nothing afterwards."

A WALTER HYGGES is one of the witnesses to another conveyance of land.

Mem. 12: "View of frankpledge with Court held 9 October, 1528" (20 Henry VIII).

JOHN HYGGES again on the Jury.

Mem. 12, d: At a Court held 22 November, 1528 (20 Henry VIII).

RICHARD FYNCHIE sued THOMAS HYGGES of Westhall in a plea of trespass viz.: For breaking RICHARD's close at Sanford on the 12th day of September in that year.

Mem. 13: At a Court held at Cheltenham 6 May, 1529 (21 Henry VIII).

WALTER HIGGS was on the Jury.

Thus from the early Court Rolls we get an insight into the character and occupations of the early HIGGS Family of Cheltenham and Charlton Kings.





## THE CHELTENHAM WATERS.

It is of particular interest to relate that the medicinal spring which has made Cheltenham so famous from the eighteenth century was in a meadow a few furlongs distant from the town on the south side, about six feet beneath the surface of the ground, and that this was a part of the HIGGS estate in Cheltenham. Mr. HIGGS of Sandford, not knowing that such a spring existed, sold this meadow with the adjoining land to a Mr. MASON in 1716. Soon after the purchase Mr. MASON discovered the spring, and for some time after its discovery the people of the town came and drank from it. In 1718 it was railed in, locked up, and a little shed built over it, as upon an analysis, made by Drs. GREVILLE and BAIRD, the water was found to be highly beneficial as a medicine, and it was sold as such till the year 1721, when the well was let to a Mr. SPENCER at £61 per annum. After the decease of Mr. MASON and his son, Capt. H. SKILLICORNE, father-in-law of the late landlord, becoming proprietor of the spring and the premises (in right of his wife, the daughter of Mr. MASON), in the summer of 1738, not only built the old room on the west side for drinkers, with other necessary conveniences, but protected the spring from all extraneous matter, and "*Erected a square brick building, on four arches, as a dome over it, with a pump on the east side, rising in form of an obelisk*".

Mr. THOMAS HIGGS of Sandford, who sold this valuable property to Mr. MASON in 1716, was born in 1660, and was buried at Cheltenham 25 August, 1727. He is the ancestor of the late CHARLES COOK HIGGS, Esqre., of Charlton Kings, who died a bachelor in 1885.

To attempt to give a complete account of the HIGGS family of Cheltenham and Charlton Kings in this work would be far too great a task and too large a field to cover. The aim of the writer in this Appendix to the Higgs Family of South Stoke, Oxon, and Thatcham, Co. Berks, is rather to give an outline of the various branches of a very large family which have, in the course of the centuries, settled in the various counties of England, in the Dominions "beyond the seas" and other lands, so that those descendants of an ancient stock may be assisted in tracing out their ancestry.

In 1865 the late SIR THOMAS PHILLIPS, who devoted his life to much genealogical research work, drew up a pedigree of the HIGGS family of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, a record of which is preserved in the British Museum. SIR THOMAS makes no claim that his work is fully accurate, for he notes, "*To be verified T.P. 1865*", and in fact several inaccuracies have been discovered in the preparation of this book. Some account from this pedigree is here given with additional notes, which may be of service to those interested. The pedigree commences with a HIGGES of Gloucester (no place given), namely one SIMON HIGGES, living in 1327, and a JOHN HUGGES or HIGGES of Westhall is mentioned in a Court Roll of the Manor of Cheltenham, 7 Edward III, 1333. The pedigree then proceeds with JOHN HIGGES of Sandford, in the parish of Cheltenham, who probably married JULIANA, an heiress of the family of Sandford, Co. Gloucester. The family of Sandford, Sontford, Sanford, etc., was of ancient lineage in the county of Salop, where THOMAS DE SAUNDFORD, a Norman, held the Manor of Sandford, in that county under GERARD DE TOURNAY, a powerful Baron, whose name is in Domesday Book. It was through the marriage of JULIANA DE SANDFORD with JOHN HIGGES that the HIGGES of Cheltenham became large land-owners in this locality. SIR THOMAS PHILLIPS gives one WILLIAM HIGGES of Westall, one of the five hamlets forming the Cheltenham parish, as a brother of JOHN HIGGES who married JULIANA DE SANDFORD, and the ancestor of the HIGGES of Charlton Kings (of whom later). It would appear that he was more likely to have been a son. JOHN HIGGES of Sandford, in the parish of Cheltenham, had a son THOMAS HIGGES, who was Foreman of the Jury of Tenant for Cheltenham in 1561 (3 Eliz.). This THOMAS HIGGES married (possibly one of the family of FFIFIELD, *alias*





LOWE, of Bromley, Co. Kent), and became the father of at least five sons and five daughters, recorded as follows :

1. **THOMAS HIGGES**, who succeeded his father as Lessee of the Cheltenham Rectory. He married 8 June, 1568, **ELIZABETH**, daughter of **EDWARD STEPHENS** of Eastington, Co. Gloucester (which manor he purchased from **HENRY LORD STAFFORD** in 1573), by **JANE**, daughter of **RICHARD FOWLER** of Stonehouse, Co. Gloucester, by **JUDITH** (or, as one record gives, **MARGERY**), daughter of **GILBERT BENNET** of Stonehouse. **EDWARD STEPHENS** was the elder son of **HENRY STEPHENS** of Frocester, who married the daughter and co-heir of **EDWARD LUGG**, a Herefordshire family. By **ELIZABETH STEPHENS** his wife, **THOMAS HIGGES**—whose will was proved in 1589 (P.C.C. "Leister", 38)—he had seven sons and three daughters, two of whom predeceased their father, and according to a suit in Chancery, *BACON versus HIGGS* (Ser. II 257/13), the eight children living at the time of **THOMAS HIGGES**'s decease were "Most of them small and yonge" (in 1589). **ELIZABETH HIGGES** their mother married a second time to one "H. BADGHOTT" (**BAGOT**, or **BADGER**). The children of **THOMAS** and **ELIZABETH HIGGES** were as follows :

1. **THOMAS HIGGES**, born at Cheltenham 1570 and died there 8 December, 1637. He married and left three daughters :

- (1) **MARGARET**, born 1589.
- (2) **ALICE**, born 1591.
- (3) **ELIZABETH**, born 1593.

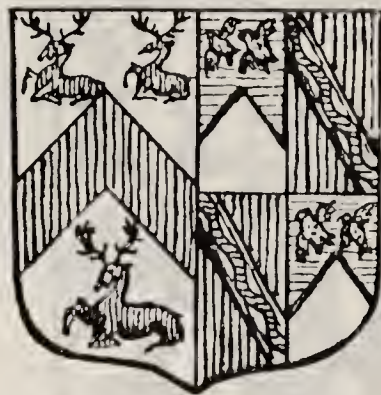
His father bequeathed to him his "Great Goblet and Great Ring".

2. **RICHARD HIGGES**, born at Cheltenham, 1573 (of whom later).
3. **WILLIAM HIGGES**, born 1575, mentioned in his father's will.

4. **ROBERT HIGGES**, born at Cheltenham, 1578. He married in 1607 **ALICE**, daughter of **TIMOTHY CARTWRIGHT** of Washborne, Co. Gloucester, by **EL**—, daughter of **SIR JO. THEXTON** of London, Knight. She married secondly **ANTHONY PARTRIDGE**, son of **ROBERT PARTRIDGE** of Wishanger (*vide* 'Harl. MSS.', 1041, fo. 104; 1543, fo. 137). **ROBERT HIGGES**'s will, dated 28 April, 1612, was proved at Gloucester by his brothers **THOMAS HIGGES** and **JOHN HIGGES**—his executors. His father-in-law **TIMOTHY CARTWRIGHT**, and his "kinsman" **RICHARD PATES**, Gentleman, were appointed overseers, and the will was witnessed by **THOMAS ATKINS**, **ANNE HIGGES** and **RICHARD PATE** (or **PATES**). He left to his brothers in trust for his wife all his estate "right by the terms of years and demands whatsoever" he had "or by any means ought to have had in and to all the third part of the tithes, glebe land, fruits, pilts, and commodities whatsoever of, or in any wise belonging to the Rectory—or Parsonage—of Cheltenham or to any part or member thereof for a jointure, or dowerie, unto **ALICE** his beloved wife and her assigns during the term he had, or ought to have had, in the said third part of the tithes etc." (*vide* also Chancery Suit, 1622, 28 May, *PARTRIDGE versus HIGGS*, Ser. II, 374/9).

5. **HENRY HIGGES**, born 1580 (a clerk in Holy Orders), mentioned in his father's will.
6. **JOHN HIGGES**, born at Cheltenham in 1581. He married (according to Chancery Deposition, *ENGLISH versus HIGGS* and *ATKINS*, 350/13, 1634) **JANE**, daughter of **SIR EDWIN SANDYS** of Latymers and maternal grand-daughter of **WILLIAM**, third **LORD SANDYS**, of the "Vyne" (near Silchester), Co. Hants, who entertained *Queen Elizabeth* there in 1569. **JANE SANDYS** was also sister of **Mary**, who married **RICHARD ATKINS** of Tuffley, Co. Gloucester. **JANE** married secondly the Rev. Dr. **ENGLISH**. He was buried at Cheltenham 26 November, 1647. **JOHN HIGGES** had by his wife **JANE SANDYS** one son :

HIGGES  
impaling  
STEPHENS  
quartering  
LUGG.



HIGGES = CARTWRIGHT.







1. HENRY HIGGES, who through his mother was thirteenth in descent from KING EDWARD III (*vide* Royal Descent of HENRY HIGGES of Cheltenham).
7. EDWARD HIGGES, born 1593, Bailiff of Cheltenham, to whom his father willed his "Great Saulte".
  - (1) ROSE, born in 1582 and died in 1587.
  - (2) JOAN, mentioned in her father's will. She married 22 October, 1604, THOMAS ATKINS, by whom she had two sons and two daughters :
    1. THOMAS.
    2. HENRY.
    - (1) MARY.
    - (2) ELIZABETH.
  - (3) ANNE, buried at Cheltenham 1 August, 1620. Her will was dated 15 June and proved 3 September of that year at Gloucester. She mentions her brother-in-law THOMAS ATKINS and nephew HENRY ATKINS, and "cousins" DANIEL FOWLER and RICHARD PATES.
2. JOHN HIGGES of Sandford, in the parish of Cheltenham (mentioned, according to SIR THOMAS PHILLIPS's pedigree, in a Deed 17 Elizabeth) married at Cheltenham 31 January, 1563, ELIZABETH MACHYN, or MACHEN (she was buried at Cheltenham in July, 1617). The MACHIN family was long seated in Gloucestershire, and bore arms "Gules, a fess vaire, between three pelicans' heads erased Or, vulning themselves" (*vide* 'Harl. MSS.', fo. 88; and 1543, fo. 91b). By his wife ELIZABETH, JOHN HIGGES left three sons and three daughters :
  1. THOMAS HIGGES, of Alston, in the parish of Cheltenham, born 1565.
  2. WALTER HIGGES, born 1566 and died 1573.
  3. ANTHONY HIGGES, born at Cheltenham 1571. He was a land-owner at the time of the Cheltenham Survey (1617). He was buried at Cheltenham 17 April, 1626. He married and had three sons :
    1. THOMAS HIGGES of Sandford, who died in 1645 and by his wife MARGARET had three sons :
      1. THOMAS HIGGES of Sandford, who died in 1678/9, and by his wife ELINOR (who died in 1719) left five sons and five daughters :
        1. THOMAS HIGGES of Sandford, born 1660, the ancestor of CHARLES COOK HIGGS, Esqre. (of whom later).
        2. JOHN HIGGES of Westall, who by his wife MARY BROWNE had a son JOHN HIGGS, who settled at Charlton Kings and afterwards at Upton St. Leonards, Co. Gloucester, and became the ancestor of the HIGGS family of that place, the HIGGS family of Holsworthy, Co. Devon, and the HIGGS family of Pender Island, British Columbia (*vide* HIGGS family of Suffolk).
        3. ROBERT HIGGS of Gloucester.
        4. WILLIAM HIGGS of Sandford, born 1676, died 1710.
        5. WALTER HIGGS.
          - (1) MARGARET.
          - (2) ELINOR.
          - (3) MARY.
          - (4) ELIZABETH.
          - (5) ANNE.
      2. JOHN HIGGES, second son of THOMAS and MARGARET HIGGES of Sandford, born 1629.
      3. ANTHONY HIGGES, born 1645.
    2. The second son of ANTHONY HIGGES, the land-owner in Cheltenham at the time

HIGGES  
impaling—  
SANDYS of  
LATIMERS quarter  
ing BRAY & LONGVALE  
and LORD SANDYS of  
THE VYNE—



HIGGES  
impaling—  
MACHEN.







of the Survey in 1617, was WALTER HIGGES, who was baptized at Cheltenham in July, 1609. He married one ELIZABETH —, who was buried at Cheltenham 30 July, 1698.

3. The third and youngest son of ANTHONY HIGGS was SAMUEL HIGGS, who was baptized at Cheltenham in October, 1622. By his wife MARY, who was buried at Cheltenham 16 October, 1719, he had four sons and one daughter :

1. JOHN HIGGS, baptized 1 June, 1646.
2. JOSEPH HIGGS, buried at Cheltenham 16 June, 1693.
3. ISAACK HIGGS of Cheltenham, who married 2 March, 1715, MARY BLOXUM, by whom he had four sons and one daughter :

1. JOHN HIGGS, baptized at Cheltenham 13 August, 1716. Buried there 28 May, 1717.

2. SAMUEL HIGGS, baptized at Cheltenham 29 December, 1717.

3. JOHN HIGGS, baptized at Cheltenham 1 March, 1721.

4. ISAACK HIGGS, baptized at Cheltenham 14 January, 1725. Married SARAH —, who was buried at Cheltenham 10 October, 1741. He was buried at Cheltenham 2 September, 1741. There is little doubt that from this marriage are descended the HIGGS family of Northleach and Kempsford, Co. Gloucester (*vide* record of that family).

4. WALTER HIGGS.

- (1) MARY, baptized at Cheltenham 27 November, 1652; buried there 22 December, 1711.

The three daughters of JOHN HIGGES of Sandford by ELIZABETH MACHEN, his wife, were :

- (1) EDITH, born 1565.
- (2) SUSAN, born 1573.
- (3) MARGARET, born 1576.

3. **WILLIAM HIGGES**, who settled at Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester, and became Lord of the Manors of Colesbourne and Chedworth (the third son of THOMAS HIGGES, the foreman of the Jury of Tenant for Cheltenham in 1561) (*vide* HIGGS family of Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester).

4. **WALTER HIGGES**, the fourth son of THOMAS HIGGES, married twice; first MARGARET CLARK, or CLARKE, in 1565 (possibly one of the CLARKES of Basildon, Co. Berks), and secondly JOAN WHITE ("OLIM SMYTH") 27 November, 1570, at Cheltenham Parish Church, by whom he had three sons :

1. WILLIAM HIGGES.

2. JOHN HIGGES, sole executor of his father's will, proved at Gloucester 2 May, 1572.

3. THOMAS HIGGES, mentioned in his father's will.

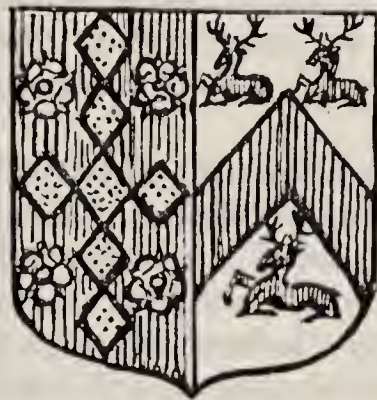
5. **RICHARD HIGGES**, the fifth son of THOMAS HIGGES. He is mentioned in the wills of both THOMAS HIGGES and WALTER HIGGES his brothers.

- (1) **ANN**, daughter of THOMAS HIGGES, Foreman of the Jury of Tenant for Cheltenham in 1561, became the wife of THOMAS PLEYDELL of Shrivenham, Co. Berks, and an ancestress of the present EARL OF RADNOR. Their daughter KATHERIN (PLEYDELL) married at Basildon, Co. Berks, 24 June, 1588, JOHN BUCKERIDGE of that place, and THOMAS BUCKERIDGE, their only child, who was baptized at Basildon 4 May, 1589, married KATHERIN, daughter of JOHN (*alias* JENKIN) HIGGES of Basildon, and grand-daughter of NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGES of that place (*vide* HIGGS family of Basildon, Co. Berks, and pedigree showing the connections between the families of HIGGS of Cheltenham, HIGGS of Basildon, BUCKERIDGE of Basildon—of which family was descended the Rev. Dr. JOHN BUCKERIDGE, Bishop of Ely—and KEBLEWHITE of South Fawley, Co. Berks).

PLEYDELL of  
Shrivenham Co Berks  
quartering REASON  
of Corfe Castle &  
impaling HIGGS



PACKER HIGGES.







- (2) **AGNES**, married at Cheltenham 16 January, 1559, RICHARD GREGORIE or GREGORY.
- (3) **MARGARET**, the third daughter of THOMAS HIGGES, married at Cheltenham 29 May, 1560, THOMAS PACKER of a Cheltenham armigerous family (*vide* 'Harl. MSS.', 1041, fo. 89, and 1543, fo. 95; also Chancery Suit, 1623, PACKER *versus* HIGGS, ser. II, 372/14).
- (4) **ELIZABETH**, the fourth daughter, married at Cheltenham 12 October, 1563, THOMAS BENNET (in all probability of the BENNET family living at Stonehouse, Co. Gloucester).
- (5) **EDITH**, the fifth daughter of THOMAS HIGGES, married at Cheltenham 11 July, 1588, to HENRY LANE. The LANES were another old Gloucester family whose descendants came into considerable prominence in the Royalist Cause during the Civil War. THOMAS LANE (will dated 4 October, 36 Henry VIII, proved P.C.C., 19 December, 1544, by MATILDA, the relict and ANTHONY HUSE, for THOMAS LANE the son) was Recorder of Gloucester, and was buried in the Cathedral, near to the spot where his father and mother were also interred. This family bore arms "Per pale *azure* and *gules*, three saltires *Or*, a mullett *argent* for difference" (*vide* 'Harl. MSS.', 1543, fo. 91.)

### LANE-HIGGS



### THE PLEYDELL FAMILY.

A few notes regarding this family may be of interest, as not only did ANN (or ANNA), the daughter of THOMAS HIGGS of Cheltenham, marry into this family in the sixteenth century, but in the early part of the eighteenth century a daughter of THOMAS HIGGS of Abingdon, Co. Berks, and of Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxon (son of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke by MARY COMBE, his wife, and grandson of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke by ELEANOR WHISTLER, his wife) married into the family of PLEYDELL, or PLEYDALL (*vide* Pedigree of the descendants of BARTON and ELEANOR HIGGS of South Stoke, Chapter III).

Originally of the village of Coleshill, Co. Berks, this family claimed descent from THOMAS DE COLESHILL, who on 2 March, 1275, held the Lordship of Coleshill from the Crown by King's service. Of this family was WILLIAM PLEYDELL of Coleshill (born about 1425), whose will bears date 6 November, 1494. He died in 1495, leaving by ISABELLA, his wife, a son and heir, THOMAS PLEYDELL, who died in 1527 possessed of a considerable estate, and was interred, together with AGNES, his wife, in a chapel, which for that purpose he had in his lifetime caused to be erected on the south side of the church at Coleshill. His son and heir, WILLIAM PLEYDELL of Coleshill, married AGNES, the daughter and co-heir of ROBERT REASON of Corfe Castle, Co. Dorset, which castle came into great prominence during the Civil War by its remarkable defence against the forces of the Parliament by "Brave Dame MARY BANKES", the wife of its Governor. WILLIAM and AGNES PLEYDELL became the parents of no less than seven sons: (1) ANTHONY, (2) THOBYE, (3) VYRGILL, (4) GABRYELL, (5) ZACHERIE, (6) THOMAS, (7) JOHN, and two daughters, SUSAN and ELIZABETH ('Harl. MSS.', 5867, fo. 161). Some records give THOMAS as the fifth son. This son THOMAS PLEYDELL married ANN (or ANNA), the daughter of THOMAS HIGGS of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester. WILLIAM HIGGS, Lord of the Manor of Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester, was this ANN PLEYDELL's brother, and as he mentions his cousin ARTHUR LOWE in his will, it may be that their mother was one of the family of LOWE *alias* FIFIELD of Bromley in Kent. The wife of WILLIAM HIGGS of Colesbourne was buried at Bromley. THOMAS PLEYDELL and ANN HIGGS, his wife, had two sons, JOHN PLEYDELL of Shrivenham, Co. Berks, who married ANNA, daughter of OLIVER AYSHCOMBE of Lyford, Co. Berks, and EDWARD PLEYDELL of Cricklade, Co.





Wilts, who married ANNA, daughter of WILLIAM STEPHENS, of the county of Berks. THOMAS PLEYDELL and ANN HIGGS, his wife, also had four daughters: (1) EDITH, (2) MARGARET, (3) KATHERIN—who became the wife of JOHN BUCKERIDGE of Basildon, Co. Berks, on 24 June, 1588, and had an only child, THOMAS BUCKERIDGE, whom they baptized at Basildon 4 May, 1589. It has been stated that he married KATHERIN, daughter of JOHN HIGGES (*alias* JENKIN HIGGES) of Basildon, son of NICHOLAS and JANE HIGGS of that place, but Mr. A. STEPHENS DYER, an authority upon the BUCKERIDGE family, says this is incorrect and that this THOMAS BUCKERIDGE married at Chieveley, Co. Berks, 3 February, 1608, ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN POCOCK of Bradley Court, in which case the pedigree given is at fault and does not show the close relationship indicated (*vide* Pedigree showing relationship between the families of HIGGS of Cheltenham, HIGGS of Basildon, KEBLEWHITE of South Fawley, Co. Berks, WHITE of Reading, Co. Berks, and BUCKERIDGE of Basildon, given with HIGGS of Basildon, Co. Berks)—and (4) MARY PLEYDELL. It would be interesting to know whether THOMAS PLEYDELL ever took his wife to visit his grandfather ROBERT REASON at the historic old castle at Corfe; and also if in the next century the husband of ELIZABETH, daughter of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke by ELEANOR WHISTLER, his wife, who married a BANKES, married one of the same family as Sir JOHN BANKES of Corfe Castle, whose wife Dame MARY withstood two prolonged sieges of the castle—the first in 1643, which lasted six weeks and ended in the flight of the besiegers, and the second in 1645, of eight weeks' duration, which terminated, through the treachery of one of the garrison, in the fall of the castle to the Parliamentary forces. SIR JOHN BANKES and Dame MARY, the daughter of RALPH HAWTREY, of Ruislip, Co. Middlesex, had four sons and six daughters. Corfe Castle is still in the Bankes family.

It was to the above ELIZABETH BANKES (*née* HIGGS) that the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS left a picture of the *Queen of Bohemia's* eldest son HENRY FREDERICK, who was drowned—one of the Royal gifts which he brought from Holland on the termination of his chaplaincy to *Queen Elizabeth of Bohemia* at The Hague.

Returning to WILLIAM HIGGES of Westall, or Westhall, whom SIR THOMAS PHILLIPS places as "a brother" of JOHN HIGGES of Sandford (?), he was married at Cheltenham 6 August, 1576, to MARGERY, sister and heiress to RICHARD BREVELL, and by her had a son:

1. WALTER HIGGES, who settled at Charlton Kings, and is recorded as a land-owner there at the time of the Survey made in 1617. He married and had issue three sons and two daughters:
1. WALTER HIGGES, baptized at Charlton Kings 3 September, 1614. He became a Commissioned officer in the army of *King Charles I*, and was probably of Col. HARVEY (or HERVEY) BAGOR's regiment of horse. He is said to have been present at the Battles of Naseby and Battledown. At the age of twenty-five he married, 30 November, at Charlton Kings, ELIZABETH WATTS, and it is evident from the parish registers that she died at the birth of their daughter ELIZABETH, as both mother and daughter are entered on 25 August, 1640, the former in the Burials and the latter under Baptisms. This daughter ELIZABETH became the wife of one THOMAS GABB. WALTER HIGGES married secondly, it is said, to one of the family of PATE, or PATES, a family active in the Royalist cause, and in all probability to a daughter of RICHARD PATES, Esquire, who founded both the hospital and the free school in Cheltenham in 1574. RICHARD PATES was Recorder of Gloucester in 1556, and confirmed by *Queen Elizabeth's* Charter in 1561. He represented the City of Gloucester in five Parliaments, and was the RICHARD PATES appointed by *Henry VIII* and *Edward VI* to take a survey of all religious foundations in Gloucester, Bristol, etc., which were then suppressed and vested in the Crown. By his second wife WALTER HIGGES had two daughters:





- (2) FRANCES, who was buried a spinster at Charlton Kings 10 April, 1702.
- (3) ANNE, who was buried with her father in the family tomb in Charlton Kings Churchyard 29 August, 1684, aged 4 years.
- 2. THOMAS HIGGES, baptized 11 August, 1616, buried 8 January, 1617.
- 3. WILLIAM HIGGES, baptized 29 June, 1623.
- (1) MARGARET HIGGES, married ROBERT GALE, 28 December, 1655.
- (2) ANNE HIGGES. She married WALTER MANSELL.



Returning to THOMAS HIGGES of Sandford, the eldest son of THOMAS and ELINOR HIGGES of that place, who was born in 1660, he married, and by his wife JOYCE, who died in 1711, had a son SAMUEL. THOMAS HIGGES died in 1727 at the age of sixty-seven.

SAMUEL HIGGES, his son, married KATHERINE, daughter and co-heir of EDMUND HARRIS, *alias* PRICKLEY, of Deerhurst Walton, of an old Gloucestershire and Worcestershire family. EDMUND HARRIS was an attorney-at-law, and owned a third part of Deerhurst Walton in 1713. SAMUEL HIGGS and KATHERINE, his wife, had three sons and two daughters. (KATHERINE HIGGS was buried at Cheltenham 20 February, 1760.)

- 1. CHARLES HIGGS of Sandford, parish of Cheltenham, and of Alcester, Co. Warwick, was baptized at Cheltenham 21 July, 1718, and married at Charlton Kings 31 December, 1758, SUSANNA, daughter of SAMUEL COOK of that place, and dying in 1781, aged 63 years, left two sons and three daughters :
  - 1. CHARLES HIGGS of Charlton Kings, born 30 September, 1759, and dying 17 November, 1800, left by his wife RUPERTIA (widow of the Rev. HENRY BROWN and daughter of Mr. COLLIER of Blockley, Co. Worcester) one son and one daughter :
    - 1. CHARLES COOK HIGGS, Esquire, of Charlton Kings, who at the age of 18 matriculated from Worcester College, Oxford. He died a bachelor in 1884, and was buried at Charlton Kings on 12 August, aged 87 years.
    - (1) RUPERTIA, who became the wife of WILLIAM SANDES.
  - 2. SAMUEL HIGGS of Charlton Kings, baptized there 25 September, 1761, died without issue 19 January, 1824, aged 63 years, and was buried in the nave of Charlton Kings Parish Church, where there is a monumental inscription to his memory.
  - (1) SUSANNA, baptized 3 January, 1774. She married JOHN GALE of Charlton Kings 22 August, 1805, by whom she had a son :
    - 1. SAMUEL HIGGS GALE, a barrister, whose pedigree is entered in the books of the College of Arms.
    - (2) ELIZABETH, baptized 12 October, 1763, at Charlton Kings ; she married there 3 May, 1792, the Rev. WILLIAM PICKERING REID of Winterborn, Co. Dorset, and died without issue.
    - (3) JANE. She married GILES GREENAWAY of Gloucester.
- 2. THOMAS HIGGS of Cheltenham, baptized there 17 June, 1720 (of whom later).
- 3. HARRIS HIGGS of the Leigh, born in 1724 and baptized at Cheltenham 12 May that year, married and left a son :
  - 1. ADAM HIGGS.

The two daughters of SAMUEL HIGGES of Sandford, in the parish of Cheltenham, by KATHERINE, the daughter and co-heir of EDMUND HARRIS (*alias* PRICKLEY) of Deerhurst Walton, were :

- (1) ESTHER, baptized 14 June, 1718, and buried 8 September in that year.
- (2) SARAH, baptized 31 July, 1719, at Cheltenham and buried 17 August, 1719, both dying in infancy.





As stated, THOMAS HIGGS, the second son of SAMUEL HIGGES, or HIGGS, of Sandford, in the parish of Cheltenham, by KATHERINE, the daughter and co-heir of EDMUND HARRIS (*alias* PRICKLEY) of Deerhurst Walton, was baptized at Cheltenham Parish Church 17 June, 1720. By his wife ANN, who was buried at Cheltenham 14 January, 1784, he left a son SAMUEL and a daughter ANN. She was baptized 28 December, 1768, and died 1806.

SAMUEL HIGGS was baptized at Cheltenham 24 November, 1753, and married 23 January, 1774, MARY WARDER of Hayles, and dying in 1800, being buried at Cheltenham 8 October that year, left the following family of three sons and two daughters :

1. SIMEON HIGGS of Charlton Kings, baptized at Cheltenham 20 August, 1777. He married SARAH BRINT 27 October, 1802, at Charlton Kings. He was buried at Cheltenham 10 November, 1824.
3. THOMAS HIGGS, the second son of SAMUEL and MARY HIGGS of Cheltenham, was baptized 12 April, 1780.
3. SAMUEL HIGGS, the third son, was baptized 15 February, 1792.
- (1) SARAH, baptized 6 January, 1775, at Cheltenham.
- (2) MARY, baptized 7 August, 1780, at Cheltenham.

Returning to RICHARD HIGGS, the second son of THOMAS HIGGS, lessee of the Cheltenham Rectory, by ELIZABETH, the daughter of EDWARD STEPHENS of Eastington, Co. Gloucester, who was baptized as stated at Cheltenham in 1573, he married ELIZABETH —, and settled at Norton, Co. Gloucester, as a yeoman farmer. By his will proved in 1612 (P.C.C. "Fenner", fo. 43) he left ten pounds to the poor of Norton and legacies to the following children :

1. RICHARD HIGGS.
  2. ROWLAND HIGGS, to whom his father left £100.  
(Note.—"ROWLAND" is an unusual name in the HIGGS family, and it would seem that the descendants of this man settled in Wales, as in 1930 a Miss GWENDOLINE HIGGS, whose father was a Mr. ROWLAND HIGGS, who emigrated to Canada from Wales, and settled at Old Battleford, Saskatchewan, where she was born, is a nurse at the Vancouver General Hospital. From Old Battleford this family moved to the small town of Maidstone, in the same Province. This Mr. ROWLAND HIGGS married a Miss ELIZABETH STONE, and besides the daughter GWENDOLINE had a son also named ROWLAND.)
  3. BARNABY HIGGS, Gentleman, buried at Cheltenham 27 January, 1648, having died two days previously according to the monumental inscription in Cheltenham Parish Church, where his name is given as "BERNARD", though "BARNABY" in the register. He married ELIZABETH, who died 29 June, 1672, and was likewise buried at Cheltenham. Her will was proved at Gloucester in that year. The will of her husband was proved at Gloucester in 1649, but in the Calendar of Gloucester Wills is given as "Missing". His name there appears as "BARBABUS". His father RICHARD HIGGS left him the sum of £200.
  4. WILLIAM HIGGS was the fourth son of RICHARD HIGGS by ELIZABETH, his wife. He married a daughter of BASELY and MARY WOODROFFE.
  5. LAWRENCE HIGGS of Cheltenham was the fifth son. He married and had the following issue :
    1. RICHARD HIGGS, baptized at Cheltenham 18 February, 1649.
    2. LAWRENCE HIGGS, who married JONE or JOAN —. He was buried at Cheltenham 2 August, 1717. His wife was also buried there 15 March, 1706.
    - (1) FRANCES, baptized at Cheltenham 4 May, 1652.
    - (2) SARAH, who married 20 October, 1689, WILLIAM HOWLETT of Winchcomb. She died 22 December, 1694 (mural tablet in Cheltenham Parish Church). Their son JOHN HOWLETT died 17 May, 1708, aged fifteen, and was buried at Cheltenham.
- RICHARD HIGGS of Norton had, by ELIZABETH, his wife, two daughters :
- (1) ELIZABETH.
  - (2) ANNE, who married EDMOND ETHRIDGE.





In connection with gifts to the Parish Church of Cheltenham, one "Mistress ANNE HIGGS", who was buried 2 August, 1620, gave by will "diverse ornaments to ye Church of a greene carpet for the Communion Table, a flaxen table cloth, and two pairs of sheets; a red needlework cushion for the pulpit and bountiful alms and legacies to ye poore" (from the Parish Records). She was a daughter of THOMAS HIGGES, Gentleman, "some-time of Cheltenham" according to a monumental inscription in Cheltenham Parish Church.

MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS IN CHARLTON KINGS CHURCH,  
NEAR TO CHELTENHAM.

1. *North aisle :*

Sacred  
to the memory of CHARLES  
son of CHARLES and SUSANNAH HIGGS  
born : Sept. 30th., 1759 ; died : November 17th., 1809  
also of  
RUPERTIA, wife of above  
born : January 9th., 1768 ; died : August 5th., 1849

2. *West end :*

Underneath lie the remains  
of  
JOHN GALE Senior and of ANN, his wife  
He died on the 3rd., of February 1765  
She died on the 13th., of September 1766  
each aged 46 years.  
Also of JOHN, son of the above  
JOHN & ANN GALE  
who died on the 19th., of February 1812  
aged 64 years.  
Also of SUSANNAH his wife, dau. of  
CHARLES AND SUSANNAH HIGGS  
She died 8th., February 1851 aged 76 years.

3.

Sacred to the memory of  
SAMUEL COOK  
and his nephew  
SAMUEL HIGGS  
both of this parish, Gentlemen.  
The former died  
on the 12th., day of July 1804  
aged 81 years,  
and was buried in the chancel.  
The latter died  
on the 19th., day of January 1824  
aged 60 years  
and was buried in the nave of  
this church.  
Also to the memory of JOHN  
eldest son of JOHN GALE  
late of this parish, Gentleman.  
He died at Milan  
on the 11th., day of January 1829  
aged 22 years.





MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS TO MEMBERS OF THE HIGGS FAMILY  
IN CHELTENHAM PARISH CHURCH  
ON FLAT STONES BEFORE HIDDEN BY THE MODERN TILING.

1.

BERNARD HIGGES, Gentleman  
who died January ye 25th., 1648  
and

ELIZABETH, his wife,  
who died June 29th., 1672.

(Note.—This BERNARD HIGGES was with little doubt the same man  
as "BARNABY" HIGGES, son of RICHARD and ELIZABETH HIGGES of  
Cheltenham.—W. M. H.)

2.

MRS (MISTRESS) ANNE HIGGES  
daughter of  
THOMAS HIGGES, Gentleman  
sometime of Cheltenham  
who deceased ye 1st. day  
of August 1620.

3.

SARAH, the widow of WILLIAM HOWLETT  
of Winchcombe (Gloucestershire)  
daughter of  
LAWRENCE HIGGS of this town  
departed this life  
December 22nd., 1694.  
also of  
JOHN HOWLETT, son of WILLIAM and  
SARAH HOWLETT  
died May 17th., 1708 aged 15.

4.

THOMAS HIGGES  
of  
Sandford (Cheltenham)  
was buried  
March ye 21st., 1679.

As previously recorded, THOMAS HIGGES of Sandford, in the parish of Cheltenham, who died in March, 1679, the eldest grandson of ANTHONY HIGGES—a landowner in Cheltenham at the time of the 1617 Survey—left by his wife ELINOR (who died in 1719) five sons and five daughters—and the second son JOHN HIGGES of Westhall, in the parish of Cheltenham, married MARY BROWNE. By her JOHN HIGGES had at least two children, JOHN HIGGES and a daughter SUSAN. It was this JOHN HIGGES who settled at Charlton Kings, where he farmed, and also carried on a local blacksmith's business. He married ANNE the daughter of a local farmer named SMITH, and by her had a large family of sons and daughters, at least ten of whom are known :

1. THOMAS HIGGS, the eldest son, married and had three sons :
  1. THOMAS HIGGS.
  2. WILLIAM HIGGS, who, by his wife SARAH, had one son and two daughters :
    1. THOMAS HIGGS.
    - (1) MARY.
    - (2) ELIZABETH.
  3. JOHN HIGGS.





2. DANIEL HIGGS (*vide* HIGGS family of Chipping Sodbury, Co. Gloucester).
3. JAMES HIGGS, born 1739 (of whom later), the ancestor of the HIGGS Family of Sudbury, Suffolk, and of those who settled at Pender Island, B.C.
4. WILLIAM HIGGS, who settled in London, from Upton St. Leonards, Co. Gloucester, to which place his parents had removed from Charlton Kings, where in the Metropolis he became very successful in the iron trade, carrying on business in Southwark. He married ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN PIKE of Oxford, by whom he had one son and two daughters :
  1. THOMAS HIGGS, born 19 December, 1804. He resided on Streatham Hill at "Claverton Lodge", and died 18th May 1886, and was buried in Norwood Cemetery. He married SARAH SHUNN, who was born in 1804 (23 March), and died 23 December, 1874, and was buried in Norwood Cemetery. THOMAS and SARAH HIGGS had one son :
    1. The Rev. WILLIAM HENRY HIGGS, M.A., born in 1839. He matriculated from Pembroke College, Oxford, 21 October, 1859, aged twenty, took his B.A. degree in 1864 and his M.A. in 1866, and became Curate of Harrow Green Church, Leytonstone, in the county of Essex in 1885. He died 9 November, 1897, aged fifty-eight years, and was buried in Norwood Cemetery.
  - (1) MARY, born 1809. She became the wife of JOHN, son of JOHN GEORGE of Kent, and by him had a son ERNEST GEORGE of Streatham Common, Co. Surrey, who became a well-known London architect (F.R.I.B.A.), practising with a partner under the name of ERNEST GEORGE & PETO.
  - (2) ELIZABETH, who married THOMAS PURDUE.

WILLIAM HIGGS eventually took into partnership one of the GEORGE Family, and the business founded by him in Southwark became known as HIGGS & GEORGE, and then as GEORGE & SONS. Among the endowed Charities of the Parish of Lambeth is one known as "WILLIAM HIGGS's Charity", and was founded by this WILLIAM HIGGS - who must not be confused with WILLIAM, third son of CALEB HIGGS and SARAH NASH, his wife, who was born in Lambeth in 1824 (two to three generations later). This charity reads as follows :

#### WILLIAM HIGGS'S CHARITY.

**By an indenture** dated the 10th day of October 1845, made between WILLIAM HIGGS of the one part and JAMES HOOKER and three others of the other part, **Reciting** that the said WILLIAM HIGGS had placed the sum of £125, in the hands of the said parties of the second part upon the trusts thereafter mentioned, it was declared that the said parties of the second part would invest the same in public funds, or lend the same at interest to the trustees of any Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, on their note of hand, as the trustees should think expedient, and would stand possessed of the investments upon trust to distribute the dividends equally amongst five of the most deserving members of the Wesleyan Methodist Society at Lambeth to enable them to provide a comfortable dinner on Christmas Day.

The deed directs that the trust is to be carried out in accordance with regulations therein set forth which provide (*inter alia*) that the trustees are in December of every year, at least five days before Christmas, to convene a meeting of the leaders of classes connected with Lambeth Chapel, at which the preacher if present is to be Chairman, and that at such meeting five persons being members of the Society in connection with Lambeth Chapel are to be chosen to receive the bounty of the said WILLIAM HIGGS, preference being given to poor persons being class leaders, eminent for piety and for their industry in the cause of the Gospel. Provision is made for the appointment of new trustees by the survivors, such new trustees being members of the Society connected with the Chapel.

The Gift was for some years lent out at 4 per cent. interest, and was afterwards invested in £110 Capital Stock of the Scinde, Pimjaub and Delhi Railway Co., which sum is now represented by a "B Annuity" of £5 12s. 9d. in the same railway company standing in the names of JOHN CORDEROY (alleged deceased), JOSEPH SIMMONS and THOMAS SHARPLEY. This Annuity is paid less sums amounting to 14s. 6d. for Income Tax (which is not recovered), pensions and sinking fund making the amount actually received £4 18s. 3d.





The income is received by Mr. THOMAS SHARPLEY, one of the trustees and treasurer of the Chapel, and is divided among five poor members of the Lambeth Chapel who are elected at a meeting of the minister and class leaders of the chapel held shortly before Christmas. The recipients are usually women.

No accounts of the Charity have been rendered to the Charity Commissioners. A book is kept by Mr. SHARPLEY showing the net amount received each year, and the names of the persons to whom it was awarded at the leaders' meeting, with amount in each case. The last entry dated Christmas 1897 shows £4 18s. 2d. received and the same sum awarded in four sums of £1 and one sum of 18s. 2d. to five persons whose names are given.

(Note.—It is of particular interest to note that the name of JOHN CORDEROY, a kinsman of WILLIAM HIGGS, son of CALEB HIGGS and SARAH NASH, his wife, of the Berkshire branch of the HIGGS family, was a trustee of this Charity at one time in connection with Lambeth Chapel. It would be of interest to know if this Charity is still in existence, as this report was made in 1897.—W. M. H.)

## THE ROYAL DESCENT of HENRY HIGGS of CHELTENHAM.

AND OF ALL WHO CAN SHOW DESCENT FROM HIM.



EDWARD III. *King of England* = PHILLIPPA of HAINAULT.  
(born 1312) 1327-1377. b. circa 1309 m. 1328 d. 1369.

LIONEL of Antwerp, Duke of Clarence b. 1338 d. 1368 = LADY ELIZABETH DE BURGH  
d. 1363 *Heiress of Ulster*

PHILLIPPA of Clarence = EDMUND MORTIMER  
born 1355 m. 1368 d. 1382 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of March. born 1352 d. 1381

ROGER MORTIMER = LADY ELEANOR  
4<sup>th</sup> Earl of March b. 1374 d. 1398 HOLLAND  
She died 1405.



BADGE of  
Roger Mortimer  
of Richard  
WHITE ROSE 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of York.

RICHARD Earl of Cambridge = LADY ANNE MORTIMER  
b. 1375 d. 1415

RICHARD, 3<sup>rd</sup> Duke of York = LADY CECILY NEVILL  
Declared heir to the Throne of England b. 1412 d. 1460. born: 1415 d. 1495

LADY ANNE PLANTAGENET = SIR THOMAS ST. LEGER.  
b. 1439 d. 1476 2<sup>nd</sup> husband

LADY ANNE ST. LEGER = SIR GEORGE MANNERS  
daughter & heiress d. 1526 12<sup>th</sup> LORD Roos or Ros d. 1513.

THE HON. ELIZABETH MANNERS = THOMAS 2<sup>nd</sup> LORD SANDYS of  
the VYNE, nr. SILCHESTER, Co. HANTS. d. 1556

THE HON. HENRY SANDYS = THE HON. ELIZABETH  
he died before his father & his son became heir. WINDSOR

WILLIAM, 3<sup>rd</sup> LORD SANDYS = 1<sup>st</sup>. CHRISTIAN ANNESLEY  
of the VYNE, entertained Queen Elizabeth there in 1569. d. 1623. Bur. Basingstoke. 2<sup>nd</sup>. THE HON. CATHERINE BRIDGES  
d. of EDMUND, LORD CHANDOS  
3<sup>rd</sup>ly URSULA.

ELIZABETH, LADY SANDYS = SIR EDWIN SANDYS  
mar. 1586 of LATIMERS, Co. Bucks.  
her brother WILLIAM 4<sup>th</sup> LORD SANDYS died without issue 1629 died: 1608

THE HON JANE SANDYS = JOHN (son of Thomas) HIGGES  
She mar. 2<sup>nd</sup>ly REV DR JOHN ENGLISH. of CHELTENHAM Co. GLOUCESTER & nephew of  
She d. 1642. William Higgs, Esquire, of Colesthorpe.

HENRY HIGGS of CHELTENHAM (first cousin of WILLIAM 5<sup>th</sup> LORD SANDYS of THE VYNE with whose death in 1688 this distinguished barony fell into abeyance)

DE BURGH



MANNERS



MORTIMER



NEVILL



BADGE



of  
LORD SANDYS  
of the VYNE

SANDYS of  
LATIMERS







5. JOHN HIGGS was also another son (said to have been the fifth son and tenth child of JOHN HIGGS, and another brother of WILLIAM HIGGS whose "Charity" is above given. He was born in 1757 and settled at St. Kerrian's Parish, Exeter. He married MARGARET COLLIHALL at St. Petrock's Church, Exeter, 26 July, 1786, and they became the ancestors of the HIGGS Family of Holsworthy, Co. Devon.
6. CHARLES HIGGS was another son of JOHN HIGGS of Charlton Kings and later of Upton St. Leonards.



WILLIAM HIGGS, 1778-1865, OF UPTON ST. LEONARDS AND OF GLOUCESTER, CO. GLOUCESTER.

Second son of JAMES HIGGS and RUTH, his wife, of Upton St. Leonards, Co. Gloucester, and grandson of JOHN HIGGS of that place and formerly of Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire, and nephew of JOHN HIGGS of St. Kerrian's, Exeter, Co. Devon.

(From a fine oil portrait in possession of his great-grandson, WILLIAM NEWMAN HIGGS, J.P., of The Close, Charlton Kings, Co. Gloucester.)

**JOHN HIGGS** of Charlton Kings, who later moved to Upton St. Leonards, and was buried there about 1786, besides the sons mentioned had at least three daughters—SARAH, MARY and ANN.

Returning to his third son JAMES HIGGS, he was born in 1739 and traded in Upton St. Leonards as a miller. He married RUTH, daughter of THOMAS COX, yeoman





farmer of Longford, near Gloucester, but at the time of her marriage with JAMES HIGGS in 1762 she was the widow of WILLIAM HILL of Leigh, by whom she had two children—JOHN and MARIA. MARIA fell victim with her father to the smallpox, and both were interred in the same grave in the Churchyard of Leigh about the year 1761. Her elder child, JOHN HILL, lies buried in the Churchyard of Upton St. Leonards, where he is described as “Of Llaneravon, in the parish of Llanvrechra, Monmouthshire, Yeoman, aged 40. Departed this life May 7, 1801”. RUTH COX was born in 1738, and by her second husband JAMES HIGGS had the following family of three sons and three daughters :

1. JAMES HIGGS, born 1768.
2. WILLIAM HIGGS, born 1778. He married ELIZABETH, daughter of the Rev. JOHN STANGER of Bessels Green, in the county of Kent, by whom he had five sons and one daughter. He was buried at Upton St. Leonards in 1865. The family of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH STANGER his wife were as follows :
  1. JOHN HIGGS, born 1807 and died in 1808.
  2. WILLIAM HIGGS, born 1810 and died in 1890. He married ESTHER ANN MORRIS, and they became the ancestors of a family of HIGGS of the city of Gloucester (of whom later).
  3. CHARLES HIGGS, born 1813. He succeeded to his father's business as a miller—founded by his grandfather JAMES HIGGS. He died in 1893.
  4. JAMES HIGGS, born 1814, and died in 1852.
  5. SAMUEL HIGGS, born 1816. He married MARIA HIBBLE and from this marriage descend the HIGGS family of Sudbury, Co. Suffolk, and those of Pender Island in British Columbia. (*Vide* “Higgs Family of Suffolk.”)
- (1) ELIZA, born 1809 and died in infancy.
3. CHARLES HIGGS, born 1781.
  - (1) SARAH, born 1772.
  - (2) RUTH, born 1775.
  - (3) ANN, born 1788.

WILLIAM HIGGS of Upton St. Leonards and Gloucester, previously mentioned as the second son of WILLIAM HIGGS of Upton St. Leonards by ELIZABETH STANGER, his wife, was born at Gloucester in 1810. He went into the corn trade, in which business he was very successful. He served as High Sheriff of the City of Gloucester from 1885 to 1886, and dying in 1890 left by ESTHER ANN MORRIS, his wife, one son and three daughters, as follow :

1. FRANKLIN HIGGS, born at Gloucester 1837. He married ANNE NEWMAN, and by her had issue five sons and one daughter. He died at his residence in Park Road in 1923. The names of his children are as follows :
  1. WILLIAM NEWMAN HIGGS, born 1870, and for many years of the Bury St. Edmunds Bank, and a Justice of the Peace for that Borough. Upon his retirement he returned to his native county, settling at The Close, Charlton Kings, Gloucestershire, in the locality which, for over 600 years, has been linked with the history of his family. He married LILIAN MARY, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. WICKHAM-JONES of Frocester Lodge, South Norwood, Co. Surrey, by whom he has two sons and two daughters :
    1. THOMAS WICKHAM HIGGS, born 1920.
    2. JASPER HIGGS, born 1925 and died in 1926.
  - (1) MARIAN, born 1913.
  - (2) ESTHER, born 1916.
2. MARTIN STANGER HIGGS, born 1871. He emigrated to South Africa, where he died in 1908, leaving by his wife CATHERINE H. ADAMS one son and one daughter :
  1. WILLIAM FRANKLIN STANGER HIGGS, born 1899. During the World War he served in France, was severely wounded and died therefrom.
  - (1) KATHILEEN ADA STANGER, born 1897.
3. HUBERT LEONARD HIGGS, born 1873. He was in the Consular Service in China, and died 4 September, 1928. He married ALICE STUART, and left issue by her two sons and one daughter :





## THE FAMILY OF HIGGS

1. PATRICK WILLIAM HUBERT HIGGS of Calgary, Alberta, born 1904. He married DOROTHY ELSIE SMITH, and has by her a son :
  1. PATRICK HIGGS, born 1929.
2. LEONARD STUART HIGGS, born 1905, who has the family peculiarity referred to in Chapter X of the "webbed toes". His Chinese nurse used to call him "The Duck" in consequence.
  - (1) ADA ALICE, born 1908.
4. ARTHUR FRANKLIN HIGGS, born 1877 and died in 1925.
5. NOËL FRANKLIN HIGGS, born 1882. He married MARY C. WHITE, by whom he has a son and a daughter :
  1. NOËL GERARD HIGGS, born 1909.
  - (1) RUTH GERARD, born 1912.
- (1) LUCY FRANKLIN, the only daughter of FRANKLIN HIGGS by ANN NEWMAN his wife, was born 1868. She married WILLIAM HENLEY STOUT, by whom she has three daughters :
  - (1) ETHEL ESTHER (STOUT), born 1897. She married JOHN C. HOWARD of Sinoia, South Rhodesia, by whom she has two children :
    1. NIGEL FRANKLIN HOWARD.
    2. ALMAZ HENLEY HOWARD, born 1925.
  - (2) MARGARET LILIAN (STOUT), born 1898. She married WILLIAM A. R. BURGESS of Johannesburg, S. Africa, by whom she has a daughter :
    - (1) MARY LUCY (BURGESS), born 1923.
  - (3) NORA FRANCES EMMA (STOUT), born 1906.

The three daughters of WILLIAM HIGGS and ESTHER ANN MORRIS, his wife, were :

- (1) EMILY BOWDEN, born 1838. She died in 1892.
- (2) KATE, born 1845. She died in 1925.
- (3) ADA GERTRUDE, born 1854 and died in 1916.

## HIGGS ENTRIES IN THE PARISH REGISTERS OF CHELTENHAM.

*Marriages 1558-1844 :*

1559.	16 Jan.	RICHARD GREGORIE and AGNES HIGGES.
1560.	29 May.	THOMAS PACKER and MARGARET HIGGES.
1563.	31 Jan.	JOHN HIGGES and ELIZABETH MACHIN.
1563.	12 Oct.	THOMAS BENET and ELIZABETH HIGGES.
1566.	27 Oct.	WALTER HIGGES and MARGARET CLARKE.
1568.	8 June.	THOMAS HIGGS and ELIZABETH STEVENS.
1570.	27 Nov.	WALTER HIGGES and JANE WHITE.
1588.	11 July.	HENRIE LANE and EDIE HIGGES.
1604.	22 Oct.	THOMAS ETKINES and JONE HIGGES.
1611.	7 Nov.	HUMPHREY LAUD and JULIAN HIGGS.
1611.	21 Dec.	EDWARD BUDDING and ELIZABETH HIGGE.
1619.	1 June.	THOMAS BENFIELD and ELIZABETH HIGGE.
1682.	30 Mar.	Mr. THOMAS WALTERS and Miss ANNE HIGGS.
1689.	20 Oct.	Mr. WILLIAM HOWLETT of Winchcomb and Mrs. SARAH HIGGS.
1700.	6 Aug.	TOBIAS CHURCHES and MARY HIGGS.
1701.	4 Oct.	ROBERT HATHORN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1714.	23 Mar.	THOMAS GODDING and HESTER HIGGS.
1715.	2 Mar.	ISAAC HIGGS (day labourer) and MARY BLOXUM.
1720.	8 May.	JOHN ARTERS and RACHELL HIGGS.
1730.	27 May.	THOMAS RIDDSEY of Kings Stanley and MARY HIGGS (Higs) of this parish.
1766.	9 Aug.	JOHN HIGGS and ANN PAGE.
1774.	23 Jan.	SAMUEL HIGGS and MARY WARDER of the parish of Hayles.
1792.	19 Nov.	ROBERT HIGGS and ANN FULLER.
1794.	17 May.	JOHN HIGGS and SUSANNAH STROUD.
1797.	15 Dec.	WILLIAM HIGGS and ESTHER PAGE.
1798.	17 June.	JAMES KEARSEY and RUTH HIGGS.





1799.	12 Nov.	GEORGE JAMES and SARAH HIGGS.
1803.	12 April.	WILLIAM EVERIS and MARY HIGGS.
1807.	3 Aug.	JOHN EDWARDS and MARY HIGGS.
1808.	27 June.	CHARLES COX and SALLY HIGGS.
1810.	3 Dec.	WILLIAM HASTINGS and ANN HIGGS.
1812.	21 Sept.	WILLIAM HIGGS and CAROLINE FISHER.
1817.	27 Aug.	JOHN CLEMENTS and PRISCILLA HIGGS.
1819.	15 July.	THOMAS HERBERT and SARAH HIGGS.
1821.	14 May.	SAMUEL HIGGS and HARRIET DREW.
1822.	3 June.	WALTER HIGGS and CHARLOTTE WOOD.
1824.	8 June.	WILLIAM FLETCHER and ANN HIGGS.
1825.	28 Mar.	EMANUEL HIGGS and RHODA COSSIER.
1825.	17 May.	ALEXANDER ALLEN and MARY ANN HIGGS.
1831.	31 May.	JOSEPH HIGGS and ELIZABETH RICHINGS.
1831.	20 Sept.	WILLIAM WOOLEY and SARAH HIGGS.
1832.	18 Oct.	CHARLES LINTON and ESTHER HIGGS.
1833.	4 Mar.	THOMAS HIGGS and SARAH PHIPP.
1833.	4 Oct.	GEORGE RAPSON and CHARLOTTE HIGGS.
1838.	5 Feb.	SAMUEL HIGGS (ostler) and ELIZABETH CLARKE.
1840.	19 Mar.	HENRY HIGGS (poulterer) and SARAH COX.
1840.	8 Oct.	THOMAS HIGGS (tailor) and SOPHIA SIMPSON.
1842.	18 Sept.	THOMAS HIGGS (grocer) and MARY CORNISH.
1844.	26 Feb.	EMANUEL HIGGS (poulterer) and MARY DANIELS.
1844.	13 Oct.	GEORGE HIGGS (trunk-maker) and JANE GREEN.

*Baptisms, 1558-1819 :*

1570.	Oct.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1571.	Mar.	ANTONIE, son of JOHN HIGGES.
1572.	Aug.	EDWARD, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1573.	Sept.	RICHARD, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1574.	Feb.	SUSANNA, child of JOHN HIGGES.
1575.	May.	WILLIAM, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1576.	July.	MARGARET, child of JOHN HIGGE.
1577.	Aug.	WALTER, son of WILLIAM HIGGES.
1578.	Dec.	ELIZABETH, child of WILLIAM HIGGES.
1580.	May.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1581.	Dec.	JOHN, son of THOMAS HIGGES.
1582.	Mar.	MARGARET, child of JOHN HIGGES.
1585.	Jan.	ANNE, child of THOMAS HIGGES (farmer)
1589.	May.	MARGARET, child of THOMAS HIGGES.
1593.	Jan.	ELIZABETH, child of THOMAS HIGGES.
1598.	Nov.	ELINOR, child of THOMAS HIGGES (under-bailiff).
1609.	July.	WALTER, son of ANTHONIE HIGGS.
1622.	Oct.	SAMUEL, son of ANTHONIE HIGGS.
1642.	30 Oct.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGS.
1645.	21 Aug.	ANTHONY, son of THOMAS HIGGS of Sandford.
1646.	1 June.	JOHN, son of SAMUEL HIGGS.
1649.	18 Feb.	RICHARD, son of LAWRENCE HIGGS.
1652.	4 May.	FRANCES, daughter of LAWRENCE HIGGS.
1652.	27 Nov.	MARY, daughter of SAMUEL HIGGS.
1676.	29 Jan.	WILLIAM, son of THOMAS HIGGS.
1685.	6 Feb.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGS of Sandford.
1687.	19 Feb.	SAMUEL, son of JOSEPH HIGGS.
1688.	9 Sept.	SARAH, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.
1691.	6 Jan.	THOMAS, son of JOSEPH HIGGS.
1691.	17 Oct.	SAMUEL, son of THOMAS HIGGS.
1702.	18 Aug.	JOHN, son of WALTER HIGGS and ALICE, his wife.
1704.	14 Nov.	MARY, daughter of WALTER HIGGS.
1708.	17 Nov.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WALTER HIGGS.
1716.	13 Aug.	JOHN, son of ISAACK HIGGS.





## THE FAMILY OF HIGGS

1716.	2 Oct.	JOSEPH, son of WALTER HIGGS.
1717.	29 Dec.	SAMUEL, son of ISAACK HIGGS.
1718.	14 June.	ESTHER, daughter of SAMUEL HIGGS.
1719.	21 July.	CHARLES, son of SAMUEL HIGGS of Sandford.
1719.	31 July.	SARAH, daughter of SAMUEL HIGGS.
1720.	17 June.	THOMAS, son of SAMUEL HIGGES of Sandford.
1721.	1 Mar.	JOHN, son of ISAC HIGGS.
1723.	1 Jan.	HANAH, daughter of ISACK HIGGS.
1724.	12 May.	HARRIS, son of SAMUEL HIGGS of Sandford.
1725.	14 Jan.	ISAACK, son of ISAACK HIGGS.
1745.	30 May.	(born) THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGS (chandler).
1753.	24 Nov.	(born) SAMUEL, son of THOMAS HIGGS.
1768.	18 Mar.	MARY, daughter of JOHN HIGGS.
1768.	28 Dec.	ANN, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.
1769.	25 Nov.	JOHN, son of JOHN HIGGS.
1775.	6 Jan.	SARAH, daughter of SAMUEL HIGGS.
1777.	19 April.	WILLIAM, son of JOHN HIGGS.
1777.	20 Aug.	SIMEON, son of SAMUEL and MARY HIGGS.
1780.	7 Aug.	MARY, daughter of SAMUEL and MARY HIGGS.
1789.	13 June.	MARY, daughter of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1791.	25 Sept.	SARAH, daughter of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1792.	15 Feb.	SAMUEL, son of SAMUEL and MARY HIGGS.
1794.	17 Jan.	ANN, daughter of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1796.	24 June.	PRISCILLA, daughter of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1798.	16 April.	JOHN, son of WILLIAM and ESTHER HIGGS.
1798.	19 Oct.	WILLIAM, son of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1802.	3 Feb.	WALTER SANDERS, son of JOHN and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1805.	10 May.	SAMUEL, son of WILLIAM and HESTER HIGGS.
1805.	17 July.	SAMUEL, son of SIMEON and SARAH HIGGS.
1805.	11 Sept.	GEORGE, son of JOHN and HESTER HIGGS.
1807.	16 Mar.	MARY, daughter of WILLIAM and ESTHER HIGGS.
1808.	25 Sept.	CHARLES, son of JOHN and ESTHER HIGGS.
1810.	13 May.	SARAH, daughter of SIMEON and SARAH HIGGS.
1812.	20 Mar.	HESTER, daughter of WILLIAM and HESTER HIGGS.
1812.	12 July.	THOMAS, son of SIMEON and SARAH HIGGS.
1813.	12 Sept.	HENRY, son of JOHN and HESTER HIGGS.
1814.	9 Oct.	WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and CAROLINE HIGGS.
1815.	15 May.	ELIZA, daughter of SIMEON and SARAH HIGGS of Alstone.
1815.	15 Oct.	WILLIAM, son of JOHN and ESTHER HIGGS.
1818.	14 Feb.	HENRY, son of SIMEON and SARAH HIGGS of Alstone.
1819.	11 April.	THOMAS, son of WILLIAM and CAROLINE HIGGS.

*Burials, 1558-1824 :*

1568.	April.	THOMAS, son of WALTER HIGGES.
1569.	Dec.	WILLIAM, son of WALTER HIGGES.
1570.	July.	MARGARET, wife of WALTER HIGGES.
1573.	Jan.	JONE, wife of WALTER HIGGES.
1574.	Mar.	WALTER, son of JOHN HIGGES.
1617.	July.	ELIZABETH, wife of JOHN HIGGES.
1620.	2 Aug.	Mistress ANNE HIGGES.
1625.	9 Nov.	"Mc. Jo. HIGGES," probably means "a son of JOHN HIGGES".
1626.	17 April.	ANTHONY HIGGES.
1637.	8 Dec.	THOMAS HIGGS, Gentleman.
1645.	25 Aug.	THOMAS HIGGS of Sandford.
1648.	27 Jan.	BARNABY HIGGS, Gentleman.
1678.	21 Mar.	THOMAS HIGGS of Sandford.
1683.	21 April.	ELINOR, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS of Sandford.
1693.	16 June.	JOSEPH HIGGS.
1698.	30 July.	ELIZABETH, wife of WALTER HIGGS.
1703.	1 Aug.	SAMUEL HIGGS.





1706.	15 Mar.	JOANE, wife of LAWRENCE HIGGS.
1707.	2 Aug.	LAWRENCE HIGGS.
1710.	12 April.	WILLIAM HIGGS of Sandford.
1711.	22 Sept.	JOYCE, wife of THOMAS HIGGS.
1711.	22 Dec.	MARY HIGGS.
1717.	28 May.	JOHN, son of ISAACK HIGGS.
1718.	8 Sept.	HESTER, daughter of SAMUEL HIGGS.
1719.	22 Feb.	ELINOR HIGGS of Sandford.
1719.	17 Aug.	SARAH, daughter of SAMUEL HIGGS.
1719.	16 Oct.	MARY, wife of SAMUEL HIGGS.
1727.	25 Aug.	THOMAS HIGGS of Sandford.
1728.	23 Oct.	WALTER HIGGS.
1729.	3 April.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1741.	2 Sept.	ISAAC HIGGS.
1741.	10 Oct.	SARAH, wife of ISAAC HIGGS.
1758.	18 Nov.	Mr. SAMUEL HIGGS of Sandford.
1760.	20 Feb.	Mrs. HIGGS of Sandford.
1765.	3 Sept.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1766.	1 Jan.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1780.	23 Mar.	HANNAH HIGGS.
1784.	14 Jan.	ANN, wife of THOMAS HIGGS.
1793.	26 July.	ANN HIGGS.
1793.	3 Sept.	MARY HIGGS.
1804.	9 Oct.	An infant of JOHN HIGGS.
1805.	21 May.	THOMAS HIGGS.
1806.	12 Dec.	ANN HIGGS.
1814.	27 July.	HENRY HIGGS, aged 11 years.
1815.	22 May.	ELIZA HIGGS of Alstone, aged 3 weeks.
1816.	22 May.	WILLIAM HIGGS, aged 8 months.
1816.	7 July.	GEORGE HIGGS, aged 11 years.
1818.	23 Sept.	SUSANNAH HIGGS, aged 66 years.
1819.	7 Feb.	MARY HIGGS of Alstone, aged 67 years.
1820.	4 Oct.	JOHN HIGGS, aged 78 years.
1824.	21 Sept.	JOHN HIGGS, aged 18 months.
1824.	10 Nov.	SIMON HIGGS, aged 45 years.

## HIGGS ENTRIES IN THE PARISH REGISTERS OF CHARLTON KINGS.

*Marriages (1538-1905) :*

1627.	17 April.	THOMAS HIGGES and MARGRET NOEL.
1639.	30 Nov.	WALTER HIGGES and ELIZABETH WATTS.
1703.	27 Jan.	THOMAS SMITH of Winchcomb and MARY HIGGS of Sandford in the parish of Cheltenham.
1758.	31 Dec.	CHARLES HIGGS of the parish of Alcester in the county of Warwick and SUSANNAH COOK of ye parish of Charlton Kings.
1792.	3 May.	WILLIAM PICKERING REID of the parish of Prestbury and ELIZABETH HIGGS of this parish.
1802.	27 Oct.	SIMEON HIGGS of Cheltenham and SARAH BRINT of Charlton Kings.
1805.	22 Aug.	JOHN GALE and SUSANNAH HIGGS (by licence).
1836.	15 Dec.	WILLIAM SANDES of Cheltenham, bachelor, and RUPERTIA HIGGS of this parish (by licence).

*Baptisms (1538-1905) :*

1587.	30 Nov.	JOANNA, the daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1614.	3 Sept.	WALTER, son of WALTER HIGGS.
1616.	11 Aug.	THOMAS, the son of WALTER HIGGS.
1623.	29 June.	WILLIAM, son of WALTER HIGGS.
1632.	26 Dec.	ANNE, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS.
1640.	25 Aug.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WALTER HIGGS.
1690.	14 June.	ANNE, daughter of WALTER HIGGS.





1761.	16 Jan.	JOHN, son of THOMAS and ANN HIGGS of Church End.
1761.	25 Sept.	SAMUEL, son of CHARLES and SUSANNAH HIGGS.
1763.	12 Oct.	ELIZABETH, daughter of CHARLES and SUSANNAH HIGGS.
1774.	3 Jan.	SUSANNAH, daughter of CHARLES and SUSANNAH HIGGS.
1783.	23 June.	WILLIAM, son of SAMUEL and HESTER HIGGS.
1793.	23 Dec.	MARY, daughter of SAMUEL and HESTER HIGGS.
1841.	14 Sept.	CHARLES EDWARD, son of SAMUEL HIGGS and ANN GAEL.
1846.	28 Oct.	SAMUEL EDWARD, son of SAMUEL HIGGS and ANNE GAEL.
1848.	3 Nov.	ALICE, daughter of SAMUEL HIGGS and ANNE GAEL.
1853.	19 April.	JOHN DE LA BERE, son of SAMUEL HIGGS and ANNE GAEL.
1854.	30 July.	THOMAS, son of SAMUEL HIGGS and ANNE GAEL.
1856.	15 Oct.	GEORGE WILLIAM, son of SAMUEL HIGGS and ANNE GAEL.

*Burials (1538-1905) :*

1584.	29 Mar.	JOHN, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1587.	27 Dec.	SUSANNAH, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1596.	17 May.	JOHN, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1617.	8 Jan.	THOMAS, son of WALTER HIGGS.
1621.	Jan.	JANE MARGERY, wife of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1640.	25 Aug.	ELIZABETH, wife of WALTER HIGGS.
1647.	2 Nov.	MARY ANN, daughter of WALTER HIGGS.
1684.	29 Aug.	ANN, daughter of WALTER HIGGS.
1694.	11 May.	THOMAS, son of THOMAS HIGGS.
1698.	14 Dec.	WALTER HIGGS.
1702.	10 April.	FRANCES HIGGS (spinster).
1780.	4 June.	SUSANNA, wife of CHARLES HIGGS, gentleman.
1781.	27 Mar.	CHARLES HIGGS, gentleman.
1800.	8 Oct.	SAMUEL HIGGS.
1809.	19 Nov.	CHARLES HIGGS, aged 50 years.
1824.	1 Jan.	SAMUEL HIGGS, aged 60 years.
1835.	24 Jan.	EASTER CHAPLIN HIGGS, aged 67 years.
1849.	18 Aug.	RUPERTIA, wife of CHARLES HIGGS, aged 81 years.
1884.	12 Aug.	CHARLES COOKE HIGGS, aged 87 years.
1887.	2 Mar.	EMILY ROSE HIGGS, aged 70 years.
1890.	6 Mar.	CHARLES POWELL HIGGS, aged 82 years.

**THE HIGGS FAMILY OF COLESBOURNE.**

About five miles from Charlton Kings, and six miles from Cheltenham, and about ten miles from the City of Gloucester in a south-easterly direction, lies the village and parish of Colesbourne. It was there that WILLIAM HIGGES, Esqre., a son of THOMAS HIGGES, Gentleman and Yeoman, lessee of the Cheltenham Rectory, and foreman of the Jury of Tenant for Cheltenham in 1561 (3 Eliz.), settled with his family, purchasing the Manor of Colesbourne from Sir EDWARD HAREWELL, Knt., and lands also from one JOHN ROBINSON towards the end of the sixteenth century. WILLIAM HIGGES also had a residence at Stepney, in the county of Middlesex, then a country suburb of the City of London. He married JUDITH, the daughter of ANTHONY CALTHORPE, or COLTHROP, of London. He was a member of the Mercers' Company, to which City Company he left at his decease by his will, which was proved in 1614 (P.C.C. "Lawe", fo. 90), "a nest of gilt potts worth about £20". One ARTHUR LOWE was his cousin.

WILLIAM HIGGES, besides his estate in Colesbourne, was Lord of the Manor of Chedworth in the same county and also owned land in the county of Kent, which accounts, no doubt, for his wife JUDITH, who died in 1646, having been buried at Bromley on 7 February in that year. Her burial is also entered in the parish register at Colesbourne.

By JUDITH, his wife, who survived him thirty-two years, he had two sons and four daughters :





1. THOMAS HIGGES of Colesbourne, who succeeded his father as Lord of the Manor, and under his father's will inherited certain lands in Little Colesbourne, which during the life of his father were in the occupation of one HENRY ATKINS. It is worthy of note how the family of ATKINS seems to have been connected by marriage with the HIGGS family of Colesbourne, and of South Stoke, in Oxfordshire. Besides this mention of HENRY ATKINS in 1614, we find that NICHOLAS HIGGES, and MARY BARTON, his wife, of South Stoke, had a daughter who married one HENRY ATKINS, though there is no record of the marriage at South Stoke. GRIFFITH HIGGES, their eldest son, however, mentions this brother-in-law in his will, which was proved in 1608 (P.C.C. "Windebank", fo. 11). Again, the will of ROBERT HIGGES, Gentleman, of Cheltenham, dated 28 April, 1612, nephew of WILLIAM HIGGES of Colesbourne, and proved at Gloucester by his executors, THOMAS and JOHN HIGGES, his brothers, in that year, is witnessed by a THOMAS ATKINS whilst we find from the will of ANNE HIGGES of Cheltenham, sister of ROBERT HIGGES, and a niece of WILLIAM HIGGES of Colesbourne, that she mentions her brother-in-law THOMAS ATKINS (or ETKINES) and her nephew HENRY ATKINS. THOMAS ATKINS married her sister JOAN at Cheltenham 22 October, 1604, and besides their son HENRY, they had also a son THOMAS. It will be remembered that another nephew of WILLIAM HIGGES of Colesbourne—JOHN HIGGES of Cheltenham (brother of ROBERT, ANNE and JOAN)—married JANE, daughter of SIR EDWIN SANDYS of Latymers, and that JANE SANDYS had a sister MARY, who married RICHARD ATKINS of Tuffley, Co. Gloucester, and it was she who erected a handsome monument in the Church of St. Andrew, Sherborne St. John, Co. Hants, to the memory of her brother, Col. HENRY SANDYS (*not* to be confounded with another "Col. HENRY SANDYS" of Kent—mentioned by Clarendon, a general of the Parliament, who bore an indifferent character)—the heir of WILLIAM, 3rd LORD SANDYS of the Vine—who was an active loyalist, and having been mortally wounded while fighting for the King at Bramdene, near Arlesford, 29 March, 1644, died 6 April that year. This fine monument bears a shield of arms showing ATKYNS, impaling the arms of SANDYS of Latymers.

It is very probable that HENRY ATKINS, who was, during the lifetime of WILLIAM HIGGES of Colesbourne, in the occupation of his land at Little Colesbourne, was the HENRY ATKINS who married the daughter of NICHOLAS HIGGES and MARY BARTON, his wife, of South Stoke, Oxon, and that NICHOLAS HIGGES of South Stoke was an uncle of WILLIAM HIGGES of Colesbourne, a *brother* of his father THOMAS HIGGES, Gentleman and Yeoman, Lessee of the Cheltenham Rectory, and Foreman of the Jury of Tenant for Cheltenham in 1561, and a son of JOHN HIGGES of Sandford, in the parish of Cheltenham, who is said to have married JULIANA DE SANFORD, an heiress by whom the HIGGES estates in Cheltenham came.

THOMAS HIGGES of Colesbourne married ELIZABETH, the daughter of THOMAS BLUDDER of Flanchford, in the county of Surrey, and sister of SIR THOMAS BLUDDER. Flanchford is in the parish of Reigate. She died in 1659, in London, and was buried 27 July, 1659, at Colesbourne, having survived her husband some ten years, he having died in 1649. THOMAS and ELIZABETH HIGGES had four sons and five daughters:

1. THOMAS HIGGES, born in 1617, as he was aged six at the time of the Herald's Visitation of Gloucestershire, when his name was entered upon the pedigree, and the Arms, in use by the family—"Argent, a chevron between three bucks lodged gules"—were confirmed to his father (of whom later).
  2. ANDREW HIGGES, whose name and baptism are recorded at Colesbourne 27 April, 1637 (*vide* Colesbourne Parish Registers and 'Visitation of Warwickshire', 1683).
  3. CLEMENT HIGGES, to whom his uncle CLEMENT HIGGES of Colesbourne left the lease of his land in that parish. (*Vide* will of CLEMENT HIGGES of Acton in the county of Middlesex, and of Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester, proved 1634—(P.C.C. "Russell", fo. 110.)
  4. RICHARD HIGGES, who matriculated at Oxford, aged 17 years, February 1641-2, and admitted as a Doctor of Physic 9 July, 1657.
- (1) MARY, to whom her uncle CLEMENT HIGGES left £50. She married at Colesbourne, 18 October, 1636, THOMAS BRIDGES, Esqre.
  - (2) JUDITH, to whom her uncle CLEMENT HIGGES left £10.
  - (3) ANN, to whom her uncle CLEMENT HIGGES left £100.





- (4) ELIZABETH, to whom her uncle CLEMENT HIGGES left £10.
- (5) SUSANNA, baptized at Colesbourne 19 July, 1632. She married at Colesbourne JOHN MIDDLETON, 5 August, 1658, who was a witness to his brother-in-law THOMAS HIGGES's will.
- 2. CLEMENT HIGGES (the second son of WILLIAM and JUDITH HIGGES of Colesbourne), Gentleman, of Acton, in the county of Middlesex, and of Colesbourne in Gloucestershire, apparently died unmarried. His name appears upon the pedigree in the College of Arms, and he is mentioned by his father WILLIAM HIGGES in his will (proved 1614, P.C.C. "Lawe", fo. 90). By his will, which was proved in 1634 (P.C.C. "Russell", fo. 110), he left the lease of his lands at Colesbourne to his nephew CLEMENT, son of his brother, THOMAS HIGGES, Esquire, and other legacies to his nieces. He mentions also in his will his "cousin" JOHN ONLIBEARE and a niece JUDITH ONLIBEARE.

The four daughters of WILLIAM HIGGES and JUDITH CALTHORPE, his wife, were :

- (1) MARY, to whom her father left £200 and land in Kent. She married GEORGE CONQUEST of London, merchant, to whose children CLEMENT HIGGES of Acton left £15 each.
- (2) SUSAN. She married first ARCHIBALD HYDER, merchant, of London, to whose son, RICHARD HYDER, CLEMENT HIGGES of Acton left all his books. She married secondly JOHN DUNSTAR (or DUNSTER) of London, mentioned in the will of her father WILLIAM HIGGES, who also left to his grandson RICHARD HYDER £50, and to his granddaughter JUDITH HYDER £100.
- (3) JUDITH. She married 8 October, 1604, JOHN BRIDGES (BRUGES or RIGGS) of Stepney, in the county of Middlesex (*vide* 'Harl. MSS.' 1041, fo. 75b, and 1543, fo. 76), by whom she had a son, THOMAS BRIDGES, and a daughter, JUDITH, mentioned in the will of CLEMENT HIGGES of Acton, Co. Middlesex.
- (4) DEBORAH, born in 1591, to whom her father left £200 and land in Kent. She married NICHOLAS BRIDGES, Mercer and Freeman of Gracechurch Street, London, 8 May, 1615, at St. Michael Basisham (*vide* Bishop of London's Marriage Licences). She was buried in the chancel of St. Peter's Church, Cornhill, 9 June, 1618, "Free of the Mercers her pitt (grave) in the chancell" (*vide* Registers of St. Peter's Church, Cornhill, London). Their son, JOHN BRIDGES, was also buried in St. Peter's Church, 16 November, 1617—"Pitt in the midell Ile Vnder ye pew No. 3"—whilst JUDITH, their daughter, to whom her grandfather WILLIAM HIGGES left £100, was baptized at St. Peter's, Cornhill, 9 November, 1617.

(Note.—ANNE HIGGES of Cheltenham, daughter of THOMAS HIGGES and ELIZABETH STEPHENS, his wife, niece of WILLIAM HIGGES of Colesbourne, and therefore first cousin of the above DEBORAH BRIDGES [*née* HIGGES], mentions in her will [1620] a DEBORAH HIGGE of Norton, Co. Gloucester, which shows the blood relationship with the HIGGES of Norton, and those of Cheltenham and Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester.)

Returning to THOMAS HIGGES, Esqre., of Colesbourne, who was born in 1617, and who succeeded his father, THOMAS, as Lord of the Manor, and whose name appears upon the pedigree in the College of Arms, as being of the age of six years at the time of the Visitation of 1623; he married 7 July, 1657, MARY, daughter and co-heir of SIR JOHN BERNARD (or BARNARD) of Abington, in the county of Northampton, by ELIZABETH, daughter of SIR CLEMENT EDMONDS of Preston Deanery in the same county, his wife; and granddaughter of BALDWIN BERNARD of Abington by ELEANOR, daughter of JOHN FULLWOOD, Esqre., of Ford Hall, Co. Warwick, his wife (*vide* 'Visitation of Northamptonshire'). It may be of interest to note that SIR JOHN BERNARD married secondly the grand-daughter of WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, poet, who became the step-mother of MARY HIGGES. This grand-daughter of the poet was ELIZABETH, the widow of THOMAS NASH, and daughter of JOHN HALL, who married Shakespeare's daughter SUSANNA, by ANNE HATHAWAY.

By his wife MARY, THOMAS HIGGES had two sons and one daughter :

- 1. BERNARD HIGGES, Gentleman, baptized at Colesbourne 11 September, 1658.

A BERNARD HIGGES, Gentleman, died at Cheltenham 25 January, 1648, and was buried there. His wife ELIZABETH was also buried there 29 June, 1672. This BERNARD HIGGES belonged to an earlier generation of HIGGES.

A BERNARD HIGGES, bachelor, and MARY SIMPSON, spinster, were married at St. James's Church, Duke's Place, London, 17 April, 1683, and





the marriage was witnessed by EDWARD EDMONDS. There is every probability that this BERNARD HIGGES was the son of THOMAS HIGGES, Esquire, of Colesbourne, and the great-grandson of SIR CLEMENT EDMONDES of Preston Deanery.

2. JOHN HIGGES buried at Colesbourne 3 April, 1668. (There is no entry of his baptism in the register.)

- (1) ELIZABETH, baptized at Colesbourne 4 September, 1660; buried there 18 December, 1668.

THOMAS HIGGES, Esqre., of Colesbourne, besides his land in that place, owned land at Burford, in the county of Oxford, as shown by his will proved in 1672 (P.C.C. "Eure", fo. 16), of which the following is an abstract:

Dated: A.D. 15 Feb. 1671.

"Mr. HIGGES makes his wife MARY, sole executrix, and after his debts are paid gives her his personal Estate and recommends to her *the care of his child*. He gives to his wife his house *at Iurford, in the county of Oxford*, and after her death the inheritance *to his child*; and in case his child die before he attaineth one and twenty years then his wife was to dispose thereof as she doth please, and the Three hundred and fifty Pounds, payable to SIR JOHN BARNARD to the child after the death of his mother. His desire is that his executrix do take care that his debts be paid, especially the debts for with his cousin HENRY PECKE stands bound to Mr. DAVIES and Mr. PARKER and a debt of £100 to Mr. JOHN MIDDLETON."

Published and declared to be the last Will of THOMAS HIGGES, Esquire, denouncing all former Wills the day and year first above written in the presence of us—

EDMUND KING.  
HENRY PECKE  
JOHN MIDDLETON  
EMANUEL THOMAS.

The child mentioned in this will was unquestionably BERNARD HIGGES, as both JOHN HIGGES and ELIZABETH HIGGES, their other children, died in 1668. There is no further mention of him in the Colesbourne registers after his baptism in 1658, so he probably left Colesbourne, and possibly settled in London, or in Burford in Oxfordshire. The marriage entry in the registers of St. James's Church, Duke's Place, London, is most suggestive with one EDWARD EDMONDS as a witness, and would make him to be twenty-five years of age when he married.

The names of KING, PECKE and MIDDLETON, all witnesses to THOMAS HIGGES's will, strongly point to the relationship which existed between the HIGGS family of Colesbourne and Cheltenham in Gloucestershire, and those of South Stoke, Oxfordshire, and Thatcham in the county of Berks. ELIZABETH, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS of Abingdon, in the county of Berks (grandson of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon) married a FRANCIS KING, and RUTH, daughter of JAMES HIGGS of Thatcham, married a JAMES KING. The will of THOMAS HIGGS of Abingdon just mentioned was witnessed by a MARY PECK, and one GEORGE PECK of Newbury was one of the most intimate friends of JOSEPH, son of JAMES HIGGS of Thatcham, Co. Berks. These instances, though curious and worthy of note, may of course be just coincidences, as the periods vary. However, the name of MIDDLETON, as with the ATKINS family, is particularly striking, for JOHN MIDDLETON, who witnesses the will of THOMAS HIGGES, Esqre., of Colesbourne in 1671, was his brother-in-law. WILLIAM MIDDLETON of Brytwell, Co. Berks, and SARA HIGGS, widow, of South Stoke, were married at Streatley, Co. Berks, 22 September, 1673, and CHRISTOPHER and JOHN MIDDLETON are both mentioned in the will of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGES of South Stoke, proved March, 1660 (P.C.C. "Nabbs", fo. 8).

The house at Burford, in Oxfordshire, which THOMAS HIGGES left to his wife MARY, and after her death to his child (BERNARD HIGGES), he may have inherited from one WILLIAM HIGGES who lived at Burford, and who made certain bequests to the Church in that place in 1544 (*vide* HIGGS Family of Burford, Oxon).





AN INTERESTING TABULATION SHOWING THE DESCENT OF BERNARD HIGGS  
OF COLESBOURNE Co. GLOUCESTER, (AND OF ALL HIGGSSES WHO CAN SHOW THEIR DESCENT  
FROM HIM) FROM (1) NIAL MOR 126<sup>th</sup> MONARCH OF IRELAND

(2) KING ALFRED THE GREAT AND THROUGH HIS MOTHER JUDITH FROM

(3) CHARLES, SURNAMED MARTEL DUKE OF THE FRANKS who died AD. 741  
GRANDFATHER OF CHARLEMAGNE "EMPEROR OF THE WEST"

NIAL MOR known as "NIAL OF THE NINE HOSTAGES"  
126<sup>th</sup> MONARCH OF IRELAND.

EOGHAN (OWEN)

MUREDACH

FERGUS MOR MAC EARCHA FIRST KING OF SCOTLAND  
OF THE MILESIA RACE

DONART

EOACHAIDH

OABHRAN

ODHAM

EOCHAIDH BUIDHE

DONALD BREACH

DONART

AODH or HUGH FIONN

EOACHAIDH

ALPIN

CEUNNETH

CONSTANTINE

DONALD

MALCOLM I KING OF SCOTLAND  
943-954

CENNETH

MALCOLM II "REX SCOTIAE"  
1005-1034

BEATRIX

DUNCAN I (or DUNCAN)

MALCOLM III  
KING OF SCOTLAND  
1054-1093

MATILDA  
alias EADGYTH  
died 1118

EGBERT KING OF WESSEX  
from 802

ETHELWULF  
KING OF WESSEX & KENT

ALFRED "THE GREAT"  
born at WANTAGE  
Co. BARKS: 849; d. 270c1901

EDWARD ELDER

EDMUND (d. 946)

EDGAR (d. 975)

ETHELRED "THE UNREADY"  
938(?) - 1016

EDMUND IRONSIDE

MARGARET d. 1093  
m. 1067

HENRY I KING OF ENGLAND, 3<sup>rd</sup> SON OF WILLIAM CONQUEROR  
born at SELBY Co. YORK 1068  
d. 1135 at ANGERS NORMANDY; bur: READING ABBEY

MAUD = GEOFFREY PLANTAGENET

b: 1102 m: 1128 d: 1157

11<sup>th</sup> COUNT of ANJOU (her 2nd husband)

HENRY II = ELEANOR of AQUITAINE  
b: 1133 d: 1189

born: 1128; died: 1204.



THE CROWN OF  
CHARLEMAGNE

CHARLES MARTEL DUKE OF THE FRANKS  
668-741

PEPIN "THE SHORT," KING OF THE FRANKS

CHARLES THE GREAT (CHARLEMAGNE)  
KING OF THE FRANKS 768 died 814

LLUDWIG (LOUIS) THE DEBONAIRE  
778 - 840

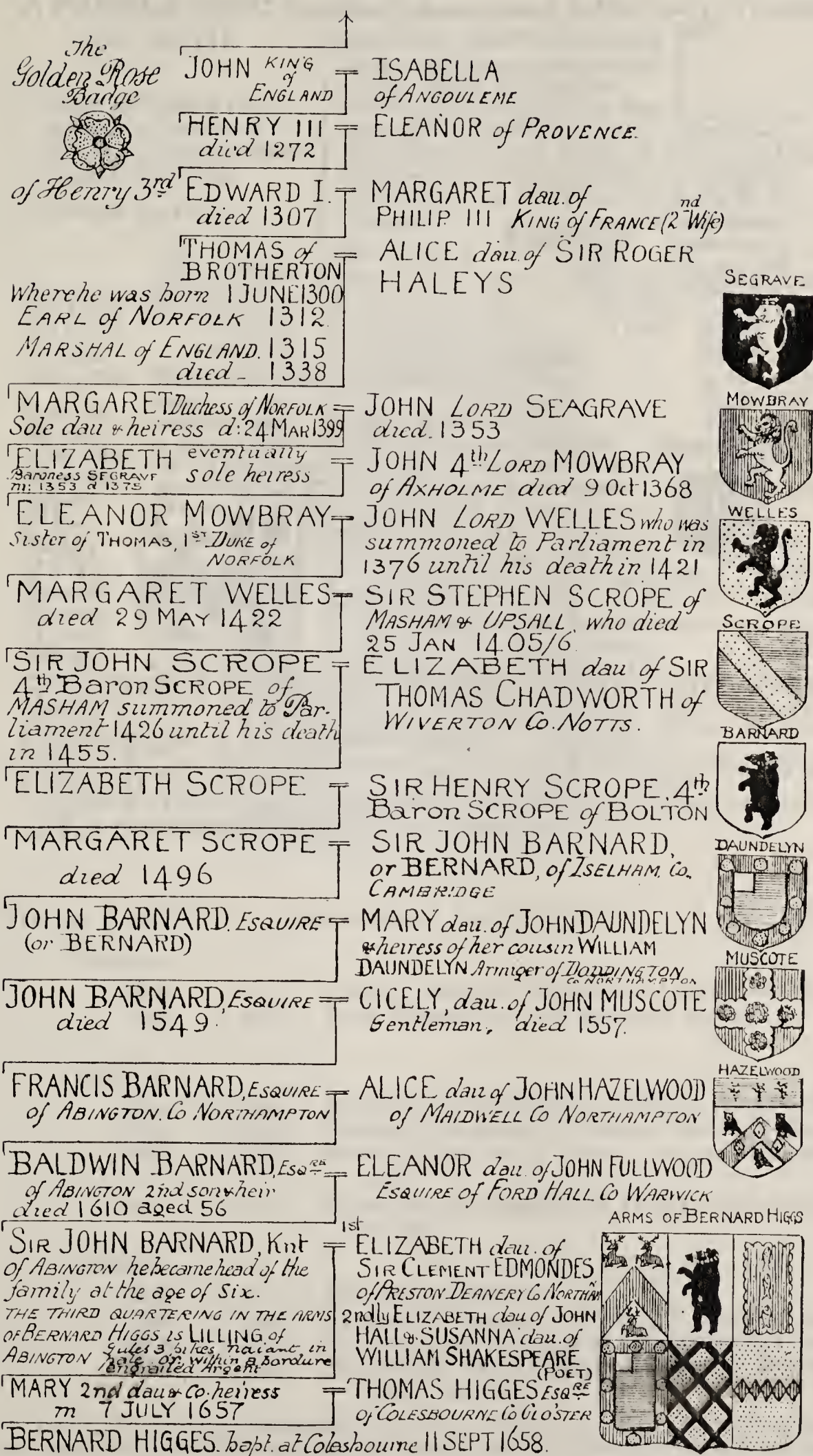
EARL CHARLES "THE BALD"  
EMPEROR OF THE WEST



THE



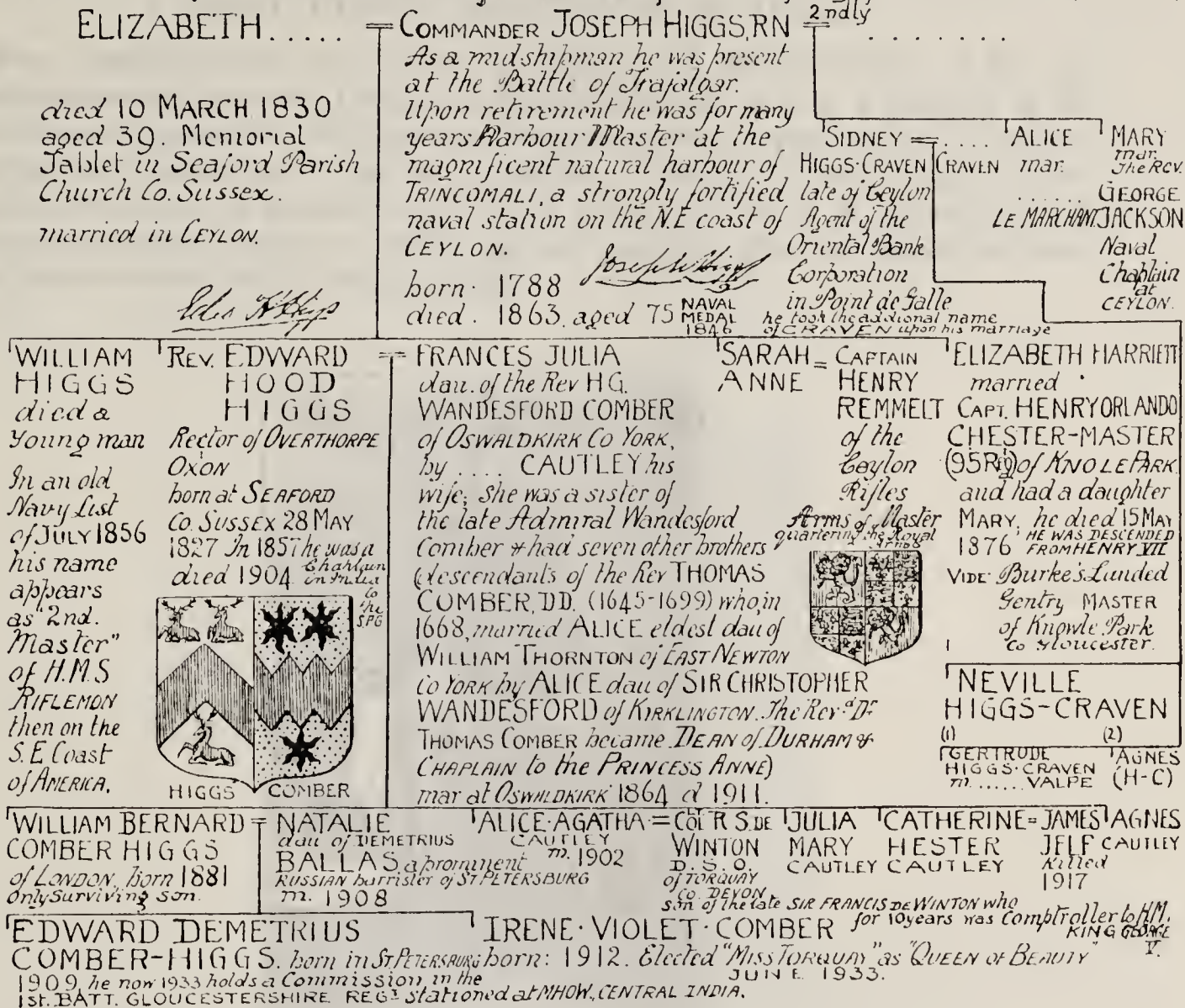








## A PEDIGREE of HIGGSES traditionally descendants of the HIGGS family of COLESBOURNE CO. GLO'STER.



## HIGGS ENTRIES IN THE PARISH REGISTERS OF COLESBOURNE (1632-1750).

## Marriages :

1636. 18 Oct. THOMAS BRIDGES, Esquire, and MARY HIGGES.  
1658. 5 Aug. JOHN MIDDLETON and SUSANNA HIGGES.

## Baptisms :

1632. 19 July. SUSANNA, the daughter of THOMAS HIGGES, Esquire.  
\*1637. 27 April. ANDREW, the sonne of THOMAS HIGGES, "Esquyre".  
1658. 11 Sept. BERNARD, the son of THOMAS HIGGES, Esquyre, and MARY, his wife.  
1660. 4 Sept. ELIZABETH, the daughter of THOMAS HIGGES Esquyre and MARY, his wife.

## Burials :

1646. 7 Feb. Mrs. JUDITH HIGGES.  
1659. 27 July. ELIZABETH HIGGES, 'widdow' ("Dyed in London").  
1668. 3 April. Mr. JOHN HIGGES, ye son of THOMAS HIGGES and MARY his wife.  
1668. 18 Dec. ELIZABETH, the daughter of THOMAS HIGGES, Esquyre, and MARY, his wife.

\* There is every probability that this ANDREW HIGGES emigrated to the Barbadoes and there married the widow of a planter, finally settling in Maryland, N. America, where one ANDREW HIGGS with this record died in 1675 (vide "Higgs Family of the United States of America", Chapter XX, and 'The Heralds' Visitation of Warwickshire, 1683').





## A STORY DURING THE INDIAN MUTINY.

The Rev. EDWARD HOOD HIGGS, son of Commander JOSEPH HIGGS, R.N., and traditionally descended from the HIGGSSES of Colesbourne, was in 1857 a chaplain of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in India stationed in Upper Assam. Extracts from a letter to his sister MARY, the wife of the Rev. GEORGE JACKSON—who had just been appointed Chaplain at Bermuda—are full of historical interest in connection with the events of the great Mutiny in India, and are therefore given in connection with the record of this branch of the Higgs Family.



THE REV. EDWARD HOOD HIGGS, 1827-1904.

UPPER ASSAM.

Dated : " August 24th, 1857.

" My dearest MARY :

" Although I have most unusually plenty of time at my command just now as the time for writing by the mail comes on, yet I do not expect to be able to write you more than a few lines. I know you will be expecting them, otherwise I should wish to defer writing altogether till I could report something certain.

" We are still safe here, though far from quiet ; men's minds are quite uneasy, and the whole country round about disturbed ; the wave of the great rebellion that has nearly unseated our authority in India has at length reached us, and we are rather fearful that we may have to meet face to face a struggle similar to those which have assailed every station almost in India, and made the bravest hearts to quail. Yesterday we thought the crisis would come. When I say " We " I do not include myself, but most of the people in the Station thought so & made preparations accordingly, remaining up all night, keeping watch and watch. I and 2 or 3 others, however, who perhaps pay more attention to what is going on, and know more of what is being done by the natives, had not so much idea of this. I think the time is not ripe yet, and I hope we shall soon be so fully prepared that when the plot is ripe, no one will be found bold enough to pluck





the fruit. We have among the troops here about 150 or 200 men whom we can trust—all Goorkas or Nepalese—these were formerly scattered in different places at out-posts, but within the last few days they have been called into the station, and gradually we are getting them on to the principal guards—such as the Fort, treasury, jail. The ammunition among the Sepoys has been reduced to the least possible quantity, and altogether such arrangements are being made that if the worst comes we may make sure of holding out against any force till succour can reach us—which would be about 2 months after we were beleagured. For myself, I was so tired yesterday that I slept sounder at night than I have for many a day, and was not awake till 6 o'clock this morning, my usual time for rising being 4. Our Church has a most substantial tower to it. It is so high as entirely to command the fort ; there are three rooms in it, one over the other, and only



WILLIAM HENRY HIGGS, R.N.,  
Acting 2nd Master of H.M.S. "Rillemon" on the S.E. Coast  
of America, 1856. From an oil portrait.  
(Son of Commander JOSEPH HIGGS, R.N.)

a small winding staircase as the means of communication, and on the first signal of alarm, I and another are to make for the Church with all speed and hold the tower—which I have no doubt we shall be able to do for a determined man with a spear even might keep at bay hundreds on the stairs. To sum up : We are still safe. No greater danger than we have been. Almost certain to be attacked—yet we are, or shall be in a day or so, fully prepared and hopeful of being able to hold out for a couple of months, *i. e.*, if we are driven to take refuge in the Fort and Church, but if our Nepalese Sepoys stand staunch we shall be able to beat the rebels in open fight and drive them into the river. We are in God's Hands, and we all trust that He will help us, or else call us to His rest in that happier land where sin and sorrow shall be no more, where all is at peace never to be disturbed.

" We only number 18 Europeans—all told—and we have some 10 women and 7 children besides to look after. I wish indeed they were away somewhere in safety ; we should feel more easy—but if possible all the bolder for their being with us.

" In such times as these it is as well to let you know all our danger, and I have told it









W. B. COMBER HIGGS,  
Only surviving son of Rev. E. H. Higgs and father of  
EDWARD and IRENE COMBER HIGGS.



IRENE VIOLET COMBER HIGGS.



EDWARD DEMETRIUS COMBER HIGGS,  
1st Gloucestershire Regiment.  
(Son of W. B. COMBER HIGGS.)





you, and make nothing less than is really the case. I know more of what is being done by the natives than perhaps any one else here ; hosts of people come to see me every day, and by comparing one thing with another, I am able to know a good deal, and so it is that I can *write*, so much in this letter. I am not a fighting man but I have a good deal to say to the counsels, and being one of the elders have to give my opinion. I think we shall be quite ready before the outbreak is ripe, and if so—why, we are all safe, and shall most probably not have much trouble. So much about self. I will write again by next mail, and you and Sarah (his sister, wife of Capt. HENRY REMMELT, *vide* Tabulation) shall hear from me constantly. Don't be alarmed ! You have been told the worst ; we have no fear for ourselves, and I hope next mail to say that we have met the crisis and conquered it. . . . I can't say that I feel as if I were in my home. I still feel as if I were only making a temporary stay, and yet I fancy that I should enjoy a real home more than most. I am fated to be an old bachelor, and to remain so to the end of the chapter "

" Believe me always,

" Your own fond, and affectionate brother,

" EDWARD H. HIGGS "

The circumstances under which he penned this letter to his sister no doubt were making him feel depressed and " Fated ", yet he was but thirty years of age at the time, and passed through the Mtiny safely, returning to England, and seven years later married FRANCES JULIA, daughter of the Rev. H. G. WANDESFORD COMBER, a direct descendant of the Rev. THOMAS COMBER, D.D. (1645–1699), who became Dean of Durham, and by her became the father of nine children. A portrait of the Rev. EDWARD HOOD HIGGS taken in July, 1863, one year before his marriage is here reproduced, together with a portrait of his brother WILLIAM HENRY HIGGS, who, like their father Commander JOSEPH HIGGS, R.N., led a seafaring life and whose name appeared as " Acting 2nd Master of the Riflemon " in a Navy List of July, 1856, and then " On the S.E. Coast of America ". (Note the striking resemblance there is between this WILLIAM HENRY HIGGS, R.N., and the portrait of HENRY FREDERICK HIGGS of the Thatcham, Berkshire Branch, given in Chapter X.—W. M. H.)

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF CODRINGTON AND WAPLEY.

The following account is from a tabulation made of the HIGGS family settled in these two villages by the late Mr. LEO. CULLETON from tombstones about 1900. (To be verified.—W. M. H.)

**MOSES HIGGS** born 1649, died 31 December, 1739, aged 90 years, from whom no doubt descended JOSIAH HIGGS, born in 1701, and who died 20 April, 1771, aged 70. This JOSIAH HIGGS was with little doubt the father of two sons :

1. MOSES HIGGS, born 1742, married MARY ——— (born 1750 and died 13 October, 1817, aged 67 years), and dying 18 January, 1826, aged 84, left two sons :
  1. JOSIAH HIGGS, farmer, born 1782, and died 10 December, 1833, aged 51 years. By his wife ELIZABETH, who was born 1785, and died 27 October, 1842 (aged 57 years), he had one son and two daughters :
    1. JOHN HIGGS, born at Wapley, 12 January, 1826, and baptized there 28 May, 1826. He married LOUISA ———.
    - (1) HANNAH, born 1817, died 21 March, 1838, aged 21 years.
    - (2) MARY, born 1814, died June 24, 1842, aged 28 years.





2. MOSES HIGGS, born 1791. He married twice. By his wife ANN (who was born 1810, and died 20 February, 1878, aged 68 years) he had a son :
  1. EDWARD HIGGS, born 1847, died in infancy, 19 January, 1848, aged 6 months.  
By his other wife, HARRIET HIGGS, the widow of MOSES HIGGS of Hampstead Farm, Old Sodbury, Co. Gloucester (born 1794, died 28 September, 1835), he had one son and one daughter :
    1. WILLIAM HIGGS, born 1819, died 30 March, 1837, aged 18 years.
    - (1) MARY RUTH, born 1810, died 20 February, 1878, aged 68 years.
2. JOSIAH HIGGS, born 1733. He married ELIZABETH, widow of JOSEPH HIGGS of Chipping Sodbury, Co. Gloucester (she was born 1730 and died 10 January, 1785, aged 55 years), by whom he had two sons and one daughter :
  1. WILLIAM HIGGS of Old Sodbury, Co. Gloucester, born 1767. He died 12 October, 1848, aged 81 years. His wife's name was SARAH. She was born in 1768, and died 11 April, 1843, aged 75 years.
  2. MOSES HIGGS, born 1769, and died 22 April, 1794.
  - (1) HANNAH, born 1760, died 12 March, 1782, aged 22 years.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF CHIPPING SODBURY AND OLD SODBURY.

From the foregoing account of the HIGGS family of Codrington and Wapley, the intermarriages between these HIGGSes and those of Old Sodbury and Chipping Sodbury are evidence of a close relationship between these families. Chippenham, in Wiltshire, a town lying to the south-east about twelve miles from Chipping Sodbury, is also another place closely to be identified with this family, as well as the village of Horton, two miles north of the latter place.

The registers of Chipping Sodbury commence in 1661, and an examination of these would probably show when the family first settled in this place, combined with an examination of those of Old Sodbury which begin in 1684.

From the list of Apprenticeship Indentures it will be seen that in 1741 (14 July) GEORGE, son of CHRISTOPHER HIGGS, was apprenticed to DANIEL HIGGS of Chipping Sodbury, who was in business there as a cordwainer. Now JOHN HIGGS of Upton St. Leonards, Co. Gloucester, who was formerly of Charlton Kings, about eight miles east of Gloucester, and about one mile from Cheltenham, had by his wife, ANNE SMITH, a son, DANIEL HIGGS (an elder brother of JOHN HIGGS, the ancestor of the HIGGS family of Holsworthy, Co. Devon), and it is probable that this son DANIEL was the same DANIEL HIGGS of Chipping Sodbury, the cordwainer, and that he became the father of one DANIEL HIGGS of Edge, in the parish of Painswick, who was born in 1779, and married one SUSANNAH, who was buried at Painswick 14 March, 1842. This DANIEL HIGGS died 16 May, 1831, and was buried at Painswick. (Painswick is but eight miles directly south from Chipping Sodbury.) It is conjectured that the last-named DANIEL HIGGS was the father of RICHARD HIGGS of Chipping Sodbury (or he may have been his brother). RICHARD HIGGS owned a tanyard, and as a tanner was a very successful man in business. He married a Miss HARRIET MITCHELL, the only daughter of the Principal of Hertford College, and dying at Haynes Hill, Taunton, Co. Somerset, about the year 1870, with personal estate valued at about £20,000, left a son RICHARD WILLIAM HIGGS, who became a Doctor in Divinity and Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford. He was also Rector of Hanborough in Oxfordshire. This Rev. Dr. RICHARD WILLIAM HIGGS was born in 1814, and marrying a Miss POPE, left by her at his death in 1891 two sons. :

1. RICHARD P. S. HIGGS of Hidlington, Co. Oxon, who was born in 1870 and married Miss A. L. HEADLEY, a daughter of the Rev. A. A. HEADLEY of Hardenhuish, Co. Wilts, by whom he had a son, JOHN P. HIGGS, born in 1890, and who, during the World War, held a Commission in the Queen's Own Oxfordshire Hussars, and saw service in France, where he was wounded in action and subsequently succumbed to his wounds.





2. ARTHUR G. HIGGS of Woodstock, Registrar of Oxfordshire, who married about 1898 Miss L. E. Mona Hawkins, daughter of Mrs. Hawkins of Fletcher's House, Woodstock, Oxon.

The Rev. Dr. RICHARD WILLIAM HIGGS used the same crest as that confirmed in 1623 to THOMAS HIGGES, Esqre., of Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester (about five miles from Charlton Kings), but differenced by five drops of blood at the arrow head (perhaps as a mark of descent from a fifth son). There is, however, no record at the College of Arms of such a mark of difference having been granted to any branch of the HIGGS family. The HIGGS family of Holsworthy, Co. Devon, descended from JOHN HIGGS of Upton St. Leonards (formerly of Charlton Kings), use "the Stag's head couped gules and pierced through the neck by an arrow in bend, feathered argent, headed Or", without the drops of blood at the point of the arrow.

The name DANIEL is not one in common use in the HIGGS family in general. The following instances have been noted :

- (1) DANIEL HIGGS, "apprenticed to JOHN SKEARTS of Chippenham, Co. Glos. (Collar Maker), 20 Sept. 1755".

(Note.—Chippenham is a village just on the Gloucestershire border in Wiltshire. The Church Registers commence in 1578. It is about fourteen miles from Chipping Sodbury.)

- (2) DANIEL HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS of Upton St. Leonards, Co. Gloucester (JOHN HIGGS died about 1786).

- (3) DANIEL HIGGS of Edge, in the parish of Painswick, Co. Gloucester, buried there 1831 (died 16 May), aged 62. Yeoman. (Monumental inscription Painswick Churchyard. Painswick is eight miles south from Chipping Sodbury.)

- (4) DANIEL HIGGS, son of LEWIS and ANN HIGGS, baptized 8 March, 1797, at the Vicarage of Lyncomb and Widcomb. (DANIEL HIGGS buried there 5 July, 1799.) (*Vide* Register of St. James's Parish, Bath, Co. Somerset. Bath is just two miles from Painswick in Gloucestershire.)

- (5) DANIEL HIGGS died at Barnwood, Co. Gloucester, in 1812. (He married a Miss DENETT.)

- (6) DANIEL HIGGS, born 1769. Married a Miss CHANDLER, and died at Harestfield, Co. Gloucester, 1831, where his descendants still live.

- (7) DANIEL HIGGS of Chipping Sodbury, Co. Gloucester, cordwainer, living 1741.

- (8) DANIEL HIGGS, "Letter to Holland, 1711". (*Vide* British Museum MS. 32695, fo. 428.)

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF HORTON.

Upon referring to the Depositions taken at Chipping Sodbury 14 January, 1647-8, among the suits in Chancery before 1714 MORDECAI RICHARDS *versus* WILLIAM PASTON and WILLIAM HIGGES 158/19, it will be seen that a family of HIGGES or HIGGS was established in Horton, just two miles north from Chipping Sodbury, at this date, and a number of HIGGES are mentioned as deponents in this suit.

A descendant of this family no doubt was MOSES HIGGS of Horton, whose will was proved in 1706 (P.C.C. "Brook", 211). It is likely that he was closely related to MOSES HIGGS of Wapley and Codrington (born 1649, died 31 December, 1739). He left his brother LAZARUS HIGGS sole executor of his will, and made legacies to his sister MARIAN, the wife of one TRESSSELL, and to his niece MARY TRESSSELL, likewise to his sister MARY SOMNERS, and five pounds each to her children WILLIAM, MARY, HANNAH and ELIZABETH SOMNERS. He also left £100 to his sister HANNAH HIGGS.

The Horton Parish Registers date from 1567. These have not been examined.

In connection with the HIGGS family of Horton, an old deed exists dated 27 April, 1664, and is catalogued by Mr. H. R. MOULTON of 5, Park Hill, Richmond, Surrey (C. 324) for sale at 20s. This consists of Articles of Agreement respecting titles, etc., at Horton,





Co. Gloucester, and bears the signatures, among others, of GUYBON GODDARD of Lincoln's Inn, London, Esqre., WILLIAM PASTON of Appleton, Co. Norfolk, Esqre., EDWARD STEPHENS\* of Hinton, Gentleman, ANTHONY TRESSELL, LAWRENCE HIGGS, ANDREW HATHWAYE, EDWARD ISAACK, and WILLIAM HATHWAYE.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF NORTHLEACH AND LECHLADE.

Northleach is a village about ten miles east by south-east from Cheltenham. It was here that a family of HIGGSES was settled about the middle of the eighteenth century, in the person of ISAAC HIGGS, who in all probability was a son of ISAAC HIGGS, who was buried at Cheltenham 2 September, 1741.

ISAAC HIGGS of Northleach had four sons and three daughters :

1. JOHN HIGGS, who settled at Kempsford, a village ten or twelve miles further south, close by Lechlade, and a few miles only from Faringdon in Berkshire (of whom later).
2. CHARLES HIGGS.
3. THOMAS HIGGS.
4. ISAAC HIGGS.
- (1) HARRIETT.
- (2) SARAH.
- (3) Another daughter—name unknown.

JOHN HIGGS, the eldest son, of Kempsford, married a Miss GARDNER, and by her had four sons and two daughters :

1. WILLIAM HIGGS (of whom later).
2. THOMAS HIGGS.
3. JOHN HIGGS of Kempsford, living in 1905.
4. GEORGE HIGGS.
- (1) HANNAH.
- (2) A daughter—name unknown.

WILLIAM HIGGS, the eldest son, married a Miss COULING, and by her had four sons and one daughter :

1. PHILLIP HIGGS, who settled at Lechlade, Co. Gloucester, and married ELIZA LINSELL, by whom he had three sons and two daughters :
  1. JAMES HIGGS of Lechlade, the eldest son, living in 1905. He married ——— and had a son :
    1. LEONARD HIGGS.
    2. FREDERICK HIGGS of Highworth, living in 1905.
    3. BENJAMIN HIGGS of Highworth, living in 1905.
    - (1) MARY, living at Highworth in 1905.
    - (2) LYDIA, living at Highworth in 1905.
  2. CHARLES HIGGS was the second son of WILLIAM HIGGS and ——— COULING, his wife.
  3. ARTHUR HIGGS, the third son.
  4. JOHN HIGGS, the fourth son. He settled at West Ealing, in the County of Middlesex, and was living in 1905.
  - (1) HARRIETT was the name of the only daughter.

Such is the very fragmentary account of this family, which, with little question, can claim Cheltenham as its original home.

\* This was with little doubt EDWARD, son of NATHANIEL STEPHENS of Horton, and of Cheriton, Co. Gloucester, who was the third son and heir of JOHN STEPHENS of Over-Lypiatt, Parish of Stroud, Gloucestershire, the third son of EDWARD STEPHENS (who purchased the manor of Eastington, County Gloucester, from Henry, Lord STAFFORD in 1573) by the daughter and heiress of EDWARD LUGG of the county of Hereford. EDWARD STEPHENS was a barrister-at-law of the Middle Temple, London, and was living in 1683. His father NATHANIEL died in 1640, at the early age of 30 years. (*Vide* Higgs Family of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester.)





## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF PAINSWICK.

There was a family of HIGGSES settled in this place closely related to the HIGGS family of Chipping Sodbury. The following notes have been gathered from the gravestones in Painswick Churchyard. The Parish Registers have not been examined ; these date from 1548.

*Died :*

1821. 27 Jan. LOUISA GEORGIANNA, wife of JAMES HIGGS of Painswick, aged 25 years.  
 1830. 4 Mar. JAMES HIGGS of Painswick, aged 35 years.  
 1831. 16 May. DANIEL HIGGS of Edge, in the Parish of Painswick, yeoman, aged 62 years.  
 1842. 14 Mar. SUSANNAH, relict of DANIEL HIGGS of Edge, aged 78 years.

## EXTRACT FROM AN ACCOUNT OF THE MALES IN THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER IN THE YEAR 1608 CAPABLE OF BEARING ARMS FOR THE KING.



It is most interesting to note those of the name of HIGGS in this list, which gives a description of age, and stature, and what arms each individual was best fitted for. The original manuscript is in the possession of LORD SHERBURNE.

PLACE.	NAME.	DESCRIPTION.
Cheltenham .	JOHN HIGGS	Yeoman ; about 20, of medium height and build, and suitable to serve as a Musketeer (born about 1588).
„ .	ROBERT HIGGS	Yeoman ; about 20, tall and suitable to serve as a Pikeman (born about 1588).
„ .	THOMAS HIGGS	Yeoman ; about 20, of small stature and suitable to serve for Calyver (born about 1588).
Sanford, in the parish of Cheltenham	ANTHONY HIGGS	Husbandman ; about 40, tall and suitable to serve as a Pikeman and to find one corselet with fur (born about 1568).
Colesbourne .	WILLIAM HIGGS	Esquire and Lord of the Manor. His tenant JOHN BRIDGES, Yeoman, a man of about 20 years of age, tall in stature and suitable to serve as a Pikeman, is charged with finding 1 Corselet, 1 Musket and 2 Calyvers with their fur.
Horton .	JOHN HIGGES	Husbandman ; about 20, of medium height and build, suitable to serve as a Musketeer (born about 1588).





- Horton . JAMES HIGGES . Husbandman ; about 20, small of stature, suitable to serve for Calyver (born about 1588).  
 „ . ROBERT HIGGES . Husbandman ; about 20, of medium height and build. A trained soldier at the time of the survey (born about 1588).  
 „ . WILLIAM HIGGES . Weaver ; about 40, of medium height and stature, a trained soldier at the time of the survey (born about 1568).

(Note.—There is a difference between “Yeoman” and “Husbandman”. The yeomen of old were freeholders, whilst the husbandmen were tenant farmers.)

## A LIST OF EARLY HIGGS WILLS AT GLOUCESTER.

(Abstracts of those marked by an asterisk have been made.)

1544. THOMAS HIGGES of Newham (? Newnham).  
 \*1545. WALTER HIGGES of Estinton (Eastington).  
 1554. CATHERINE HIGGES of Moreton Valence.  
 1556. ROBERT HIGGES of Sandhurst.  
 \*1572. WALTER HIGGES of Cheltenham.  
 1582. HUGH HIGGES of Charfield.  
 1587. JOAN HIGGES of Charfield.  
 1590. RICHARD HIGGES of Great Shurdington.  
 \*1591. NICHOLAS HIGGES *alias* HICKS of Gloucester.  
 1592. STEPHEN HIGGES of Wotton-under-Edge.  
 1595. JOHN HIGGES of Wottons Combe.  
 1597. JOHN HIGGES of Wotton-under-Edge.  
 1612. ROBERT HIGGES of Wotton-under-Edge.  
 \*1612. ROBERT HIGGS, Gentleman, of Cheltenham.  
 \*1620. ANNE HIGGES of Cheltenham.  
 \*1622. WILLIAM HIGGES of Charlton Kings.  
 1628. RICHARD HIGGES of Wotton-under-Edge.  
 1629. ROBERT HIGGES of Horton.  
 1634. WILLIAM HIGGES of Thornbury.  
 1637. LEWIS HIGGES of Horton.  
 1647. MARGERY HIGGS of Charlton Kings.  
 1649. BARBABUS HIGGS of Cheltenham (missing).  
 1672. ELIZABETH HIGGS of Cheltenham.

## HIGGS WILLS AT BRISTOL.

1634. GILES HIGGS.  
 1702. GEORGE HIGGS.  
 1713. JOSEPH HIGGS.  
 1792. JOHN HIGGS.  
 1792. THOMAS HIGGS.

## 1545. ABSTRACTS FROM SOME EARLY WILLS.

**Will of Walter Higgs of Estington (Eastington)** dated 31 August, 1545, and proved at Gloucester 20 October in that year.

He willed to be buried at Estington.

He mentions his son JOHN HIGGES and his daughters KATHERINE, ALICE, “MGRATT” (MARGARET) and AGNES.

The residue of his estate he left to his wife JOAN, whom he appointed sole executrix.

Witnesses: THOMAS WHITFIELD, JOHN RYX, ROBERT FRYER.

He mentioned a debt of 20s. which he owed to his sister MARGERY.

(Note.—Eastington lies about five miles west from Stroud and is about two miles from Frocester. The family of STEPHENS was of Eastington. EDWARD STEPHENS, the father of ELIZABETH, who married THOMAS HIGGES (son of THOMAS HIGGES of Cheltenham, the Foreman of the Jury of Tenant for that place in 1561), owned the Manor of Eastington, which he purchased from HENRY, LORD STAFFORD, in 1573. His father, HENRY





STEPHENS, was a large landowner at Frocester, and was buried in the church there. There is every probability that WALTER HIGGES was a brother of THOMAS HIGGES, the Foreman of the Jury of Tenant, and Lessee of the Cheltenham Rectory in 1561.)

1572.

**Will of Walter Higges of Cheltenham**, Yeoman, dated 7 September, 1572, and proved at Gloucester 2 May, 1573.

He mentions :

JOHAN, his wife.

JOHN and THOMAS HIGGES, his sons.

THOMAS HIGGES and RICHARD HIGGES, his brothers, whom he makes Overseers of his will.

The residue of his estate he leaves to his son JOHN HIGGES whom he made his sole executor.

Witnesses : RICHARD MERRETT and THOMAS WELLS.

(*Note*.—He was a son of THOMAS HIGGES, Foreman of the Jury of Tenant for Cheltenham in 1561, according to the pedigree by SIR THOMAS PHILLIPS, in the British Museum.)

1591.

**Will of Nicholas Higges, alias Hicks, of Longford**. Dated 6 September, 1590, and proved at Gloucester 16 October, 1591.

He mentions his wife ALICE, his sons JOHN HIGGES and WILLIAM HIGGES, and his " kinsman " THOMAS PERCE.

He also mentions his daughters ALICE, MARIE and JULIAN.

He gives to his son JOHN HIGGES, *als.* HICKS, the remainder of the lease of land which he holds of the Dean and Chapter of Gloucester on the condition that he pays 20 marks to ALICE.

He gives to his son WILLIAM the remainder of the lease and pasture called " Willey " of " an acre in diameter and of an acre in Wall ", and which he holds of OLIVER with JOHN ELYMOR and DOROTHY, his wife, on condition that he pays £6 13s. 4d. to MARIE.

The residue he gives to his wife and appoints her executrix.

He appointed as Overseers his brother-in-law THOMAS GLEM (unfortunately this word is abbreviated), Gentleman ; ARTHUR POWELL, Gentleman ; and JOHN BROOKE.

Witnesses : ARTHUR POWELL, JOHN BROOKE, J. STONE, JAS. POWELL and EDWARD PROWDE.

(*Note*.—Just who this NICHOLAS HIGGES *als.* HICKS, of Longford was in relation to the HIGGS family of Cheltenham—if any—has not been ascertained. Longford may have been a part of the City of Gloucester. There was no " Longford " in the ancient parishes of the county. There was a Longford in Derbyshire, and another in Salop. NICHOLAS HIGGES *als.* HICKS's will clearly gives Gloucestershire as the county.)

One DAVID POWELL married at Henbury, Co. Gloucester, MARIE HIGGS, 4 October, 1641. This marriage is also recorded in the registers of Slimbridge, Co. Gloucester. It will also be remembered that in Chancery Proceedings HIGGS *versus* POWELL 365/14 30 December, 1617, one NICHOLAS HIGGS, Doctor in Divinity, married MARIE, the daughter of WILLIAM POWELL, D.D.

1612.

**Will of Robert Higges, Gentleman, of Cheltenham**, dated 28 April, 1612, and proved at Gloucester 3 July of that year.

He gave to his brothers in trust for his wife all the estate right, by the terms of years and demands whatsoever he had, or by any means ought to have had in, and to all the third part of the tithes, glebe lands, fruits, pils, and commodities whatsoever of, or anywise belonging to the Rectory or Parsonage of Cheltenham, or to any part, or member, thereof for a jointure, or dowrie, unto ALICE, his beloved wife, and her assigns during the term he had, or ought to have had, in the said third part of the tithes, etc.

Executors : His brothers THOMAS HIGGES and JOHN HIGGES.

Overseers : TIMOTHY CARTWRIGHT (his father-in-law), and RICHARD PATES, Gentleman (his kinsman).

Witnesses : THOMAS ATKINS, ANNE HIGGES, and RICHARD PATE or PATES.

(*Note*.—He mentions no children in his will.—W. M. H.)





1620.

**Will of Anne Higges of Cheltenham**, dated 15 June, 1620, and proved at Gloucester 3 September of that year.

She gave ten shillings each to her godchildren and the following: ANNE ELLIS, SIBEL SHEARLE, MARGARET CLOVELEY, RICHARD PARKER, HINETT PATES, DEBORAH HIGGS of Norton, REBECCA YARE, MARGARET HOAY of Allson, JOHN DOBBINS, JOHN TAYLER (Weaver) ——— DOERBIE.

She gave 20s. to her godchildren and the following: JOHN ROBINSON of London, MARY GARDINER, ANNE ——— of Randwick, ROBERT LEECH, ANNE ROU—H, ANNE KERBY, EDMUND BALLINGER, ELIZABETH ROGERS, *alias* JELF of Sandhurst, THOS. CHURCH, JOHN DOBBINS, to old JOHN HOLBY, and his wife, RALPH TAYLOR, ELIZABETH TWYNNING, widow, HENRY BOWEN, Senr., ——— HIGGE, JOHN BAKER, and Widow TIRKE.

She gave 30s. each to her godchildren and the following: ANNE WEST, ALICE SMYTH of Gloucester, JOHN REYNOLDS and his wife, ALICE TRINDER, THOS. WARD.

To ANNE PAWTON, £3. To WALTER BISHOP and his wife, and ELIZABETH HOLDY, *alias* FLUCKE, and her husband, £3, and several others who may, or may not, have been relations.

To her brothers: THOMAS HIGGES and JOHN HIGGES, legacy.

To her sister ——— ATKINS, a legacy.

To her nephews and nieces: HENRY ATKINS, THOMAS ATKINS, MARY and ELIZABETH ATKINS.

Sole Executor: Her brother-in-law THOMAS ATKINS.

Overseers: Her brothers THOMAS HIGGES and JOHN HIGGES. Her "Cousins" DANIEL FOWLER and RICHARD PATES.

Witnesses: JANE HIGGES, DANIEL FOWLER, HENRIE FOWLER, THOMAS ATKINS, STEPHEN FOWLER.

(*Note.*—She gave several legacies to the Church. She was the daughter of THOMAS HIGGES, Gentleman, of Cheltenham, by ELIZABETH, daughter of EDWARD STEPHENS, Lord of the Manor of Eastington, Co. Gloucester.—W. M. H.)

1622.

**Will of William Higges of Charlton Kings**, dated 15 December, 1621, and proved at Gloucester 5 February, 1622.

He mentions:

His son WALTER HIGGES.

His grandson WALTER HIGGES, son of his son WALTER.

The residue of his estate he left to his daughter MILLISANT HIGGES.

Overseers: His cousins THOMAS HIGGES and JOHN HIGGES.

Witnesses: RICHARD YEATES and HENRY COLLETT.

(*Note.*—The grandson WALTER HIGGES was the Officer in the Army of King Charles whose tomb is in Charlton Kings Churchyard.)



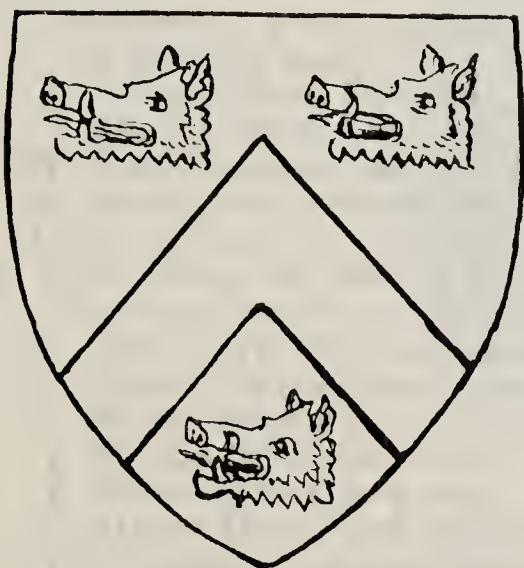


## CHAPTER XVIII

The Higgs Family in Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Lincolnshire,  
Middlesex, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Shropshire,  
Somerset, Staffordshire, Suffolk and Worcestershire

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF HAMPSHIRE.

It is certain that a branch of the HIGGS family were seated in this county in the thirteenth century, for in 1268 JOHN DE HEIGHES and AGNES his wife established their title against ROBERT DE POPHAM to a messuage and twelve acres of land in Binsted, which JOHN was to hold, *in right of* AGNES, by an annual render of 5s. to ROBERT DE POPHAM (*vide* Cur. Reg. R. 184, Roll 4). Then in 1362 one SIMON DE HEIGHES died



ARMS OF HEIGHES  
OF  
FLOOD PLACE, ALTON, CO. HANTS.

"*Sable, a chevron argent  
between 3 boars' heads Or.*"

seized of a messuage and a caracute of land in Heyes, which he held of the Earl of Kent. He left a son SIMON, who was his heir and aged 24 at the time of his father's decease (*vide* Inq. P. M. 35 Edward III, pt. 1, No. 101). One RICHARD HEIGHES paid rent to Alton for South Heye in 1399 (*vide* Add. Chart. 27, 820), whilst we find the name of PETER DE HEYGHEZ (another form of the name) as a witness, among others, to a Quitclaim Deed by THOMAS atte BAILLE to JOHN LE COUK of Okhangr', and ISABEL his wife, of his right in lands, etc., in Kyngesle, Okhangr' and Blakemere under date of 13 June, 1392. Flood Place, Alton, descended from the above given family to HENRY HEIGHES, who died seized of the manor in 1595, leaving his son NICHOLAS HEIGHES his heir then aged 16. It was held of Alton by the rent of 31s. 4d. (*vide* Inq. p.m., Chan., Ser. 2, vol. 250, No. 16). This rent was paid by one EDMUND HEIGHES in or about the year 1600 (Add. Chart., 27, 893). In 1603 NICHOLAS HEIGHES acquired a third of the Manor of Flood of

WILLIAM TUTTIE and THOMASINE his wife (Feet of Fines, Hants, Mich., 44 & 45 Elizabeth) and in 1607, and 1610, SIR NICHOLAS HEIGHES and MARTHA his wife dealt with the whole manor at the latter date, selling it to RICHARD LOCK and HENRY WHEELER (Feet of Fines, Hants, Mich. 4, Jas. 1 & Hil. 7, Jas 1). LADY HEIGHES seems to have disputed this sale in a Chancery action brought in 1620 (Chan. Pro., Jas. 1, Hh. 22, 37 & 42). In 1701, one HEIGHES WOODFORD sold the manor to FRANCIS HEATLEY (Feet of Fines, Hants, East. 13 William III). Thus for 433 years this land had been held by the same family, who retained the ancient form of the name and bore as their arms "On a shield, *sable* a chevron, *argent* between three boars' heads *Or.*" The compiler calls attention to an error in Chapter I where the boars' heads are incorrectly given as Argent.





## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF HECKFIELD.

Heckfield is a village in Hampshire, about midway between Basingstoke in this county and Reading in the county of Berks, and about seven miles due north of the former place. It was anciently spelt Hegfeld, Heggefild and Heghefeld, and it would seem took its name from the family of HEIGHES.

The Heckfield Parish Registers commence in 1538, and would no doubt yield some further information if examined upon the short account we are able to give of a family of HIGGSSES living at Heckfield in the eighteenth century.

TITUS HIGGS of Heckfield, termed "Gentleman" in the Hampshire Allegations for Marriage Licences granted by the Bishop of Winchester, was born in 1757. He first married a lady of the surname of CANE, dwelling in Heckfield, and by her had a son TITUS, born in 1786. He married secondly, 8 August, 1794, MARY ROBERTS, also of Heckfield, then aged twenty-one. "TITUS" is a most unusual baptismal name in the HIGGS family, and apparently this man is the first instance of its use. TITUS HIGGS died at Heckfield and was buried there in 1819.

TITUS HIGGS, son of TITUS by his first marriage, born in 1786, married HARRIET ROBERTS (who was born in 1789 and died in 1848). He died and was buried at Heckfield in 1839, and by his wife HARRIET left a family of four sons and three daughters, as follows :

1. HENRY THOMAS HIGGS, born at Heckfield in 1815, died 1840.
2. GEORGE HIGGS, born at Heckfield in 1817, died 1841.
3. CHARLES HIGGS, born at Heckfield in 1819, died 1895. He married THERESA, daughter of JOHN POOK of Brighton, in the county of Sussex, by whom he had the following family :
  1. GEORGE HIGGS, born 1861, died 1862.
  2. ARTHUR HIGGS, born 1863, and died in infancy.
  - (1) EMMA, living in 1905 at Ospringle Road, London, N.W. (born in 1856).
  - (2) ANNIE, born 1858 and died in infancy.
  - (3) KATE CAROLINE, born 1859, died 1860.
4. TITUS HIGGS, the third of the name, was born in 1828 at Heckfield, and married FRANCES PARDOE, by whom he had six sons and three daughters :
  1. WILLIAM HENRY HIGGS, born 1853.
  2. HENRY PARDOE HIGGS, born 1854, died 1855.
  3. HENRY PARDOE HIGGS, second son of the name, born in 1861.
  4. THOMAS HIGGS, born 1862. *Ob. inf.*
  5. GEORGE HIGGS, born 1864.
  6. ALBERT HIGGS, born 1874, died 1901.
  - (1) CATHERINE ELIZABETH, born 1855.
  - (2) SUSANNA, born 1858.
  - (3) ROSE, born 1866.
- (1) HARRIET. She married J. LOCKE.
- (2) EMMA. She married GEORGE IVATTS.
- (3) ANN.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF WEST SHERBORNE.

Not many miles from Heckfield, and west from this place, lies the village of Sherborne. It was here in the sixteenth century that one RICHARD HIGGS of Sulliamstead, Berks, owned land which he purchased from one JOSEPH BLAYNAUE, and at the time of RICHARD HIGGS's decease it was in the occupation of a widow of the name of CORDEROY. This land RICHARD HIGGS left to his son JOHN HIGGS. Other land in this place he left to his son SAMUEL HIGGS, which was in the occupation of one WILLIAM READE. Whether this land in Hampshire continued with the descendants of JOHN HIGGS and SAMUEL HIGGS, his brother, has not been ascertained. The parish registers of Sherborne Monk commence in 1601, whilst those of the adjoining parish of Sherborne St. John commence in 1652 (*vide* HIGGS Family of Sulliamstead, Co. Berks).





**THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SILCHESTER.**

It was at Silchester that one JOHN HIGGS lived and owned land in the eighteenth century. His heir-at-law was advertised for in the London 'Daily Times' (2 June, 1837). He died at Silchester in June, 1799, and was buried on the 12th of that month, aged about 66 years. He was thought to have been a son of JAMES HIGGS of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks. JOSHUA HIGGS of Cold Ash, the great-grandson of the aforesaid JAMES HIGGS, put in his claim for the estate of this JOHN HIGGS, but failed in his attempt as the certificate of baptism could not be found, and this estate went into Chancery. The land occupied by this JOHN HIGGS, or some portion of it, was that whereon the Roman Encampment anciently existed. Silchester is close to Sherborne (*vide* Chapter VI).



WILLIAM ALPHEUS HIGGS, ESQUIRE.  
A Sheriff of the City of London, and of the  
Worcestershire branch of the Higgs family.

**THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SOUTHAMPTON.**

It was at Southampton that two brothers of the name of HIGGS, namely, BENSON and JAMES HIGGS, carried on one of the largest provision merchants' businesses in this sea-port town in the latter half of the nineteenth century. They also had a grocery and bakery business at a village called TOTTON, about five miles up Southampton Water, in the parish of ELING. These were sons of WILLIAM HIGGS of Newbury, Co. Berks (*vide* Higgs Family of Newbury, Berkshire).

**THE HIGGS FAMILY OF HERTFORDSHIRE.****THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BARNET.**

A branch of the HIGGS family in the nineteenth century was residing at New Barnet in this county, and Mr. WILLIAM ALPHEUS HIGGS of this family became a Sheriff of the City of London. As tea merchants the name of W. A. HIGGS & SONS, with offices at





Islington, Co. Middlesex, is well known. Among the sons of Sheriff W. A. HIGGS, Esquire, was Mr. W. NORMAN HIGGS, whose daughter, IVY, married Mr. C. H. GREEN, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. HARRY GREEN of Muswell Hill, North London, during the World War in 1917, when Mr. C. H. GREEN was a sergeant in the Middlesex Regiment.

It is with regret that so fragmentary an account of this branch prominently connected with civic affairs in the City of London is given in this work. Mr. P. JACKSON HIGGS of New York claims W. A. HIGGS, Esquire, as his great uncle, and that his branch of the family came from Worcestershire, and that the ancient armorial bearings were in use.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF LINCOLNSHIRE.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF MARKET ROYSTON AND WRAGBY.

About the middle of the eighteenth century a family of HIGGS held lands in Market Royston and at Wragby in this county. By the will of John HIGGS (termed Esquire) of Wragby and Market Royston, and also described as "of Southampton Buildings in the Parish of High Holborn, Co. Middlesex", dated 19 November, 1762, and proved in the P.C.C. "Rushworth", fo. 220, June, 1765, it is found that he left his lands in these places in Lincolnshire to his son FRANCIS HIGGS, after the decease of his mother. He also left six messuages and tenements at Horseferry, Chelsea, in the county of Middlesex, to his son, the Rev. JOHN HIGGS. He also makes mention of a daughter MARY.

(Note.—The Registers of Wragby, Co. Lincoln, commence in 1567.—W. M. H.)

Lincolnshire is not a county where many of the name of HIGGS will be found in early times, though there were members of the family here as early as 1273, namely, HUGH HIGGE and RICHARD HIGGE (*vide* 'English Surnames', by the Rev. CANON BARDSLEY).

In the nineteenth century the HIGGS Family of Stamford and of Washingborough in this county are descendants of those of Northampton (*vide* Pedigree of HIGGS Family of Newnham, Co. Northampton).

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF MIDDLESEX.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF WESTMINSTER.

The ancient and extensive parish of Westminster, on the Middlesex bank of the old River Thames, with its beautiful and historic Abbey and adjoining Church or Chapelry of St. Margaret; its other old churches, the impressive Houses of Parliament, and other Government buildings, its attractive parks—known as Hyde Park, St. James's Park and Green Park; its Royal residences; its fine residential squares; its national monuments, etc., is so crowded with historic memories of the great, and its associations with men and women of national renown, that its associations with those of lesser degree seem to be lost. Yet Westminster has been associated with many branches of the Yeoman family with which this work deals, certainly from the middle of the seventeenth century.

On 14 May, 1669, MARY, the daughter of BARTON and ELEANOR HIGGS of South Stoke, was buried "In ye little Chappell yard in Westminster", or the graveyard of St. Margaret's which adjoins the ancient Abbey. How it was that this member of the family at South Stoke came to die, and be interred here, has not come to light. This was just ten years after her illustrious uncle the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS had passed away. In the ancient Testamentary Records of Westminster, a list of which has been printed





by ARTHUR MEREDYTH BURKE, F.S.A., and published by Messrs. Eyre & Spottiswood, Ltd., only *one* HIGGS's will is found and two administrations, namely :

- |       |               |                |                      |
|-------|---------------|----------------|----------------------|
| 1603. | GEORGE HIGGS  | Will reference | 433 "Elsam", 11, 87. |
| 1661. | RICHARD HIGGS | Admon. ,,      | V-27.                |
| 1693. | EDWARD HIGGE  | Admon. ,,      | VIII-60.             |

These have not been examined. They show, however, that it was not until the seventeenth century that any branches of this widespread family have left any records of their associations with Westminster.

Quite an interesting will of one ROGER HIGGES, or HIGGS, Gentleman, associated with this parish at this period is to be found in the calendar of wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury at Somerset House, London, 1681 (P.C.C. "North", fo. 59). An abstract of this will is as follows :

During the life of his wife MARY HIGGS, she was to hold all his lands, tenements, houses and buildings situated at Charing Cross in the parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields (within the ancient parish boundaries of Westminster) in the county of Middlesex, until their sons attained the age of one and twenty years. Then they were to allow their mother one half of their share whilst she lived.

To WILLIAM HIGGS, his son, and his heirs for ever he bequeathed "All his land at Charing Cross, which was in the occupation of one MARCHAM by name, and the Widow Rich and all those buildings called 'Bark Buildings' lying behind the fields aforesaid and abutting upon the High Street leading from Charing Cross to St. James' on the North part, upon a way, or passage, leading from the said High Street to severally newly built tenements there of mee the said ROGER HIGGS ; on the West part upon a passage leading from the paved court there of mee the said ROGER HIGGS to Mr. HEYMORE on the South and East parts". If his son WILLIAM HIGGS died before attaining the age of 21 years or without lawful issue—then he left his property to his sons HENRY HIGGS and CHARLES HIGGS to be equally divided between them and their heirs for ever.

To HENRY HIGGS, his son and his heirs for ever he bequeathed : "Five messuages, or tenements, in paved Court near Charing Cross and abutting upon the said paved Court on the North part and upon Spring Garden on the South part ; upon a stable late in the occupation of JOHN MARTIN on the West part, and upon Mr. HEYMORE there on the East part, containing a length of Four Score and ten feet or thereabouts". If his son HENRY died—before attaining 21 years of age—then the property was to be equally divided between his other sons WILLIAM HIGGS and CHARLES HIGGS and their heirs for ever.

To CHARLES HIGGS, his son, and his heirs, for ever he bequeathed : "The property purchased by him from SIR WILLIAM POULTNEY, Knt., and two tenements and buildings lying behind the same, situated near Charing Cross aforesaid and abutting upon the High Street leading from Charing Cross to St. James' on the North part ; upon the paved Court there on the South part ; upon the passage leading to the paved Court there on the East part and upon a tenement in the occupation of . . . MORRIS on the West part". If his son CHARLES HIGGS happened to die—before attaining the age of 21 years—without lawful issue, then the property was left to be equally divided between his other two sons WILLIAM HIGGS and HENRY HIGGS.

He bequeathed to his "Cousin—SIMON Higgs' children" £50 to be equally divided between them.

To the children of WILLIAM LUCAS £50 to be equally divided between them.

All the residue of his estate he left to his wife MARY HIGGS the sole executrix of his will. He appointed his father-in-law Mr. WILLIAM DODSON, and Mr. THOMAS LANDON, to be Overseers of his will, leaving unto each £5 to buy a ring.

The will is witnessed by—

JOHN SIBLEY, Senior.  
THOMAS CADWELL.  
THOMAS SIBLEY, Junior.

Dated : 20 March, 1667.

Proved : October, 1681.





The question arises : Where did this family originate? As we have shown in Chapter V, there have been very few HIGGSSES of the baptismal name of " ROGER ". Basildon Parish Registers in Berkshire record the baptism of one, 4 November, 1547, and another 8 February, 1564, and yet one more on 1 November, 1582, the last ROGER HIGGS being, with little doubt, the ROGER recorded there as marrying KATHERINE WIDMER, 2 November, 1608. No ROGER HIGGS is recorded as having been buried at Basildon.

It is possible that ROGER HIGGS, Gentleman, of Westminster, settled at Charing Cross from Basildon in Berks, and was, perhaps, a son of ROGER HIGGS and KATHERIN WIDMER. On the other hand, he may have come from the Worcester branch of the family of HIGGS settled in Hartleborne, as one ROGER HIGGS died there about 1601, and from his will, proved in that year (P.C.C. " Woodhall ", fo. 32), he had a son WILLIAM HIGGS, who may have been the father of ROGER HIGGS of Charing Cross, as he named his eldest son WILLIAM. It is possible also that he was the ROGER, son of ROGER HIGGS of Waltham Place, Lord of the Manor of Windsor in Waltham, Co. Berks, aged 14 in 1612 (*vide* Chanc. Inq. P.M., Ser. 2, cccclxx, 35 and cccclxxix, 58.)

The name of " SIMON HIGGS " as a " cousin " of ROGER HIGGS of Westminster rather points to relationship with the Gloucestershire family, as only in that county have we found this baptismal name recorded in connection with the HIGGS family in general, with the one exception of SIMON, son of OLIVER HIGGS, who was baptized at Bisham, Co. Berks, 19 February, 1614.

Apparently WILLIAM, the eldest son of ROGER HIGGS of Charing Cross, in the parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, had much to do with the Charitable Corporation for the Relief of the Industrious Poor in Westminster, as his name appears in connection with several cases in Chancery in connection with this charitable corporation (*vide* HIGGS *versus* STRANGWAYS, 7 December, 1724 (1749/53) ; HIGGS *versus* GORDAN, 9 October, 1725 (1751/30) ; and HIGGS *versus* MERES (332/11), 22 October, 1729.

CHARLES HIGGS, son of ROGER HIGGS of Charing Cross, appears to have been a solicitor and to have lived at Hampstead, Co. Middlesex, *vide* NORTON *versus* HIGGS, 17 November, 1730 (83, 25). In another Chancery case, GOODRICKE *versus* HIGGS, 26 November, 1742, he is described as of " Clifford's Inn, London, but afterwards of St. Ann's, Westminster ". A number of wills in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury for HIGGSSES of Middlesex, and of London, as well as the parish registers of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields — not examined — would no doubt give a good deal of further information about this family of HIGGS.

About 1750 in the parish of Westminster were living JAMES and ELIZABETH HIGGS, who became the ancestors of a family of HIGGSSES well known as musicians in London.

They had at least two sons, JAMES and JOHN. JOHN was witness to his brother JAMES's marriage to ELIZABETH CAUNT at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, 6 February, 1785. JAMES HIGGS was baptized at St. John's, Westminster, 4 November, 1757, so was in his twenty-eighth year when he married ; he died in 1837 (23 April). By ELIZABETH CAUNT, his wife, he had six sons, and the names of " WILLIAM ", " HENRY " and " CHARLES " amongst these are certainly suggestive of the descent of this family from ROGER HIGGS of Charing Cross, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. Their family of six sons and one daughter are as follows :

1. JOHN HIGGS, born 1785, died in infancy.
  2. JAMES HIGGS, born 1787, died in 1789.
  3. GEORGE HIGGS, born 1791, died in 1792.
  4. WILLIAM HIGGS, born 1794 (of whom later),
  5. HENRY HIGGS, born 1796, died in 1797.
  6. CHARLES HIGGS, born 1798, and died in infancy.
- (1) ELIZABETH ALICE, born 1789 and died in 1811.





The fourth son, WILLIAM HIGGS, born in 1794, became a Professor of Chemistry. He married twice, first, at St. Paul's Church, Covent Garden, London, to MARY ANN DAY, by whom he had one son and two daughters :

1. WILLIAM HIGGS, born in 1820, died 1857.
- (1) LUCY, born 1816 and died in 1894.
- (2) ELIZABETH, born in 1818. She married, but died without issue in 1874.

By his second wife, LYDIA DAY (born 1796 and died 1869), whom he married at St. Mark's Church, Kensington, he had the following family of five sons :

2. MARCELLUS HIGGS, born 1827 (of whom later).
3. JAMES HIGGS, born 1829. Became Doctor of Music and a Professor at the London University. He married AUGUSTA TURNO WEBB, by whom he had no issue. JAMES HIGGS died in 1902, and his widow died the following year.
4. HENRY THOMAS HIGGS, born 1831, died in 1833.
5. THOMAS HENRY HIGGS, born about 1833, died 1891.
6. JOHN ROGER HIGGS, born about 1835 and died in 1838.  
(Note the baptismal name of "ROGER".—W. M. H.)

Returning to MARCELLUS HIGGS, the second son of WILLIAM HIGGS, Professor of Chemistry, and the eldest son, by his second wife, LYDIA DAY ; he was born in 1827, and became a Professor of Music (like his younger brother JAMES). He married, at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton (c. 1852), CLARA ELIZA TOMLIN (born 1829 ; she died 1876), and by her had two sons and one daughter :

1. MARCELLUS HIGGS, born 1853, died in infancy 1854.
2. HENRY MARCELLUS HIGGS, born in 1855 (of whom later).
- (1) CLARA, born 1856. She became the wife of JAMES MUNRO COWAN.

MARCELLUS HIGGS's wife, CLARA ELIZA, died in 1876, and about 1878 he married secondly ELIZABETH OLIVE WILLETT, at Brockley (born 1861), by whom he had one son and one daughter :

3. ARTHUR MARCELLUS HIGGS, born 1879.
- (2) OLIVE MARCELLA HIGGS, born 1880.

HENRY MARCELLUS HIGGS, the second son of Prof. MARCELLUS HIGGS and CLARA ELIZABETH TOMLIN, his first wife, married EMMELIN AGNES MEATES at Holy Trinity Church, Pimlico (she was born in 1852). By her he has the following family (three sons and four daughters) :

1. WILLIAM CLAPHAM MARCELLUS HIGGS, born 21 September, 1881.
2. SIDNEY MARCELLUS HIGGS, born 17 May, 1883.
3. ERNEST HENRY MARCELLUS HIGGS, born 17 August, 1886, died 1896.
- (1) IRENE EMMELINE MARCELLA, born 2 April, 1880.
- (2) ETHEL FLORENCE GERTRUDE, born 18 January, 1885.
- (3) MABEL LUCY, born 1888, died at birth.
- (4) MARGARET HARRIET, born 27 May, 1888.

HENRY MARCELLUS HIGGS, like his father MARCELLUS, and his uncle, Dr. JAMES HIGGS, became a Professor of Music.





There can be little doubt that this family is descended from ROGER HIGGS, Gentleman, of Charing Cross, who died about 1681.

Another branch of this family may have been the HIGGS family of the parish of St. John, in Westminster, who carried on an extensive business as barge owners and lightermen upon the river. Three generations of this family can be gathered from the wills of WILLIAM HIGGS of this parish (1767, P.C.C. "Legard", fo. 53), and of his son JOHN HIGGS, of the same parish, 1782 (P.C.C., 25 May, "Gosling", fo. 232).

WILLIAM HIGGS left by his wife MARY a son, JOHN HIGGS, to whom he bequeathed all his barges, lighter's craft and boats on the river and £50. He also had several daughters, as he left to MARY HIGGS, his daughter, £100 of Bank Annuities. To his daughter ELIZABETH, the wife of JOHN BROUGHTON, he left £100 in trust of NEHEMIAH TOMS, his son-in-law. To MARY HIGGS, his wife, he left the interest, dividends and proceeds of the sum of £300 Consolidated Bank Annuities, or in whatsoever other stock or fund the sum of £300 stands in his name, and after her decease this was to go to his daughter, LYDIA, wife of NEHEMIAH TOMS. WILLIAM HIGGS, dying in—or about—1767, was succeeded in the lighterman's business by his son JOHN HIGGS, who married HANNAH—, by whom he had at least two sons and two daughters :

1. WILLIAM HIGGS.
2. JOHN HIGGS.
- (1) LYDIA.
- (2) MARY, who became the wife of THOMAS GREEN.

To his son WILLIAM he left a special Silver Cup which was to be an heirloom. This was no doubt a Cup won by him in the boat races which took place upon the Thames at Westminster and Lambeth each year, and from its name was one presented by *H.R.H. The Prince of Wales*. The following is the extract from JOHN HIGGS's will in reference to this Cup :

" I will and direct that my said Son WILLIAM HIGGS shall have the use of my Silver Cup called ' The Prince of Wales' Cup ' for, and during the term of his natural life, and from and after his decease then my mind and will is that my said cup shall descend to my next Male heir by the name of HIGGS for his use for and during the term of his natural life and so to descend and go from Male heir to Male heir by the name of HIGGS for ever ".

(It would be interesting to know just where this Cup is in the twentieth century.—W. M. H.)

To his daughter LYDIA, JOHN HIGGS bequeathed, after his wife HANNAH's decease, his " Silver Porringer ", and to his daughter MARY, the wife of THOMAS GREEN, his " silver table and tea spoons ".

He left his business to his sons WILLIAM and JOHN HIGGS.

He mentions in his will his " kinsman " RICHARD BROUGHTON, leaving to him £5 and a suit of mourning.

All the residue of his estate he left to be equally divided amongst the surviving members of his family, together with £200.

His legacy to his wife HANNAH was " The Interests and Dividends of £300 3% Consolidated Reduced Bank Annuities, also the Interests and Dividends of the sum of £500 4% Bank Annuities ", which after her death were to be equally divided between his children.

His friend RICHARD MINSHULL, Gentleman, of Millbank Street, Westminster, is





mentioned by him, and with WILLIAM HIGGS, his son, HANNAH HIGGS, his wife, was to be an executor of his will.

JOHN HIGGS was buried in the churchyard of St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, according to his will. A mural tablet to his wife is to be seen in this church.

ABSTRACT OF THE WILL OF HEPHZIBAH HIGGS (WIDOW) OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER

*Dated 31 August, 1744; proved by affidavit 25 September, 1754 (P.C.C. "Pinfold", fo. 251).*

To her "Good and worthy friend Mrs. PECK £10".

No HIGGS is mentioned in this short and peculiar will, though she refers to one in the following words:

"And now my dear and good child I leave you to the care of Heaven with this satisfaction that you will do your duty to God and Man, and hope that you will never let your affection sway your reason".

THE HIGGS FAMILY OF HAMPSTEAD.

ABSTRACT OF THE WILL OF EDWARD HIGGS OF HAMPSTEAD IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, AND OF BICESTER IN THE COUNTY OF OXON. (*Vide* HIGGS FAMILY OF BICESTER.)

*Dated 19 September, 1723; proved (P.C.C. "Richmond", fo. 209.)*

EDWARD HIGGS left to his daughter ELIZABETH HIGGES £250.

He bequeathed:

To his mother REBECCA HIGGES £30.

To his nephew EDWARD HIGGES 5 guineas.

To his niece MARY HIGGES 2 guineas.

To his cousin ELIZABETH COX and to her son JOHN COX, 1 guinea each.

To his wife's sister ANN LEASON 5 guineas.

To his wife BRIDGET, all the residue of his estate, and left her sole executrix of his will, which was witnessed by THOMAS LANE, JOHN WATERS and T. FOWKE.

THE HIGGS FAMILY OF ST. BOTOLPH'S PARISH, BISHOPSGATE.

From the will of one SAMUEL HIGGS, baker and citizen of London, dated 7 January, 1742, and proved in April, 1743 (P.C.C. "Boycott", fo. 115) it is gathered that he left by MARY HIGGS, his wife, two sons, SAMUEL HIGGS and TOOVEY HIGGS, to whom he left £150 each. To his daughter ELIZABETH, the wife of JOHN FAMES of Hampstead (baker), he bequeathed his property, and also makes mention in his will of another daughter, MARY, the wife of RALPH PALMER, also a baker. He left his wife MARY sole executrix, and his will was witnessed by EDWARD GROSS, RICHARD WALSH and JOHN KNIGHT.

From the will of TOOVEY HIGGS of St. Botolph's parish, son of the above SAMUEL HIGGS (proved P.C.C. "Bellas", fo. 495), 11 December, 1776, a little more is learned of this family.

He apparently died a bachelor. He left to his mother MARY HIGGS five guineas, and to his niece, MARTHA, daughter of his brother SAMUEL, and MARY HIGGS, his wife, of St. Botolph's, five guineas. He bequeathed several small legacies to the following: Mrs. BATEMAN of Bunhill Row; Mrs. WRIGHT; Mr. ROBERT BUTTERWORTH; Mr. ROBINSON; Mrs. BROGDEN, wife of Mr. JOHN BROGDEN; and Mrs. KIRKMAN, wife of Mr. THOMAS KIRKMAN.





## PEDIGREE of HIGGS of NEWNHAM Co. NORTHAMPTON, &amp; of LINCOLNSHIRE

In the Records of the Borough of NORTHAMPTON, by the Rev. J. Charles Cox, LL.D., F.S.A., it is stated on page 50 - "Between 1694 & 1771 the Aldermen of NORTHAMPTON used to meet at the various Inns and Coffee houses, and among these they met at the Coffee House kept by one WILLIAM HIGGS"

possibly an ancestor of — JAMES HIGGS of — SARAH.....  
 Note: This pedigree has been deduced from family records. The Parish registers have not been examined. W.M.H.

NEWNHAM, in the County of NORTHAMPTON  
 he was employed on the road maintenance between WEEDON and DAVENTRY

mar: about 1790

THOMAS<sup>1814</sup> HIGGS born at NEWNHAM 25 DEC 1791 Settled in the USA in 1832  
 SUSANNAH REYNOLDS HIGGS sister to SAMUEL REYNOLDS of BRISTOL & to the 2nd wife of JAMES HIGGS She died 1879 at 82.  
 SAMUEL HIGGS died 1886  
 BASELEY a widow with 4 children whose Windmill at ASHBY ST LEDGERS Co. NORTHAMPTON JAMES HIGGS married her maiden name was — REYNOLDS  
 JAMES HIGGS of THE OLD TOLLGATE HOUSE NORTHAMPTON 4th son born at NEWNHAM 24 DEC 1799 Note: The old Tollgate House stood on the site now occupied by the KINGSLEY PARK HOTEL NORTHAMPTON  
 ELIZABETH SWINGLER 3 daughters the youngest of whom became the wife of — WEBB of STAVERTON.  
 STOKES ALBANY near MARKET HARBOUR

JAMES HIGGS born 15 FEB 1822 died in 1913 at 91 at GRANTHAM, Co. LINCOLN  
 HENRY HIGGS NEWNHAM died at 1828 NEWNHAM 1849.  
 ELIZABETH HIGGS born 27 APR 1823 died aged about 46 at DALLINGTON.  
 HANNAH HIGGS born 3 SEPT 1825 died at SCALDWELL aged about 75.  
 WILLIAM HIGGS of FINEDON, NORTHAMPTON Lessee of Tollgates born: 19 JULY 1830 bur: at St. Houghton Co. NORTHAMPTON died about 1876  
 SAMUEL HIGGS born 27 JULY 1835 died in SIDNEY AUSTRALIA 1924 at 89 yrs.  
 THOMAS HIGGS of MUSCOTT FARM, FLORE NORTHANTS born 29 JUNE 1841 at TOLLGATE HOUSE NORTHAMPTON & died JULY 1932 aged 91  
 ELIZABETH ANNIE HOLT, born 29 JAN 1839 died at ROANE BRIXWORTH aged 62 mar 1864  
 "JAMES HIGGS was 5'5" in height, 91 lbs full of black & energy"

WILLIAM HIGGS JAMES HIGGS of KINGSBURY, nr TAMWORTH in the County of WARWICK born: died 1875 he predeceased his father WILLIAM HIGGS of FINEDON Co. NORTHAMPTON  
 SARAH ANN HIGGS dau. of PETER BOWDEN of GREAT EASTON in the County of LINCOLN  
 GEORGE HIGGS of THE MANOR HOUSE WASHINGTON, in the County of LINCOLN born: 14 MARCH 1864 at BIRMINGHAM he was elected a member of the KESTIVEN C.C. 7 MAR 1931  
 THOMAS ANN READHEAD she died at WELLINGBOROUGH  
 JAMES HIGGS HIGGS  
 THOMAS HIGGS  
 FREDERICK A.J. HIGGS  
 5 6 7 1 2 3 daughters

JAMES WILLIAM HIGGS of EASTON-ON-THE-HILL STAMFORD in the County of LINCOLN died there in 1889 he mar: & left issue two dau: who are said to have been living in LEICESTER in 1933.  
 GEORGE HIGGS Esq. JP of STAMFORD Co. LINCOLN born 18 NOV 1852 died 2 DEC 1918 he was for 20 years a member of the KESTIVEN County Council  
 ELIZABETH PORTER of THE MANOR HOUSE WASHINGTON, in the County of LINCOLN born: 14 MARCH 1864 at BIRMINGHAM she died 2 DEC 1926  
 FREDERICK HIGGS Esq. CC of THE MANOR HOUSE WASHINGTON, in the County of LINCOLN born: 14 MARCH 1864 at BIRMINGHAM he was elected a member of the KESTIVEN C.C. 7 MAR 1931  
 MARY ANN dau. of JOSEPH MARTIN of LINCOLN born 7 FEB 1863 mar 25 DEC 1886  
 ARTHUR HIGGS died in CANADA in 1932.  
 GEORGE EGERTON HIGGS of STAMFORD Co. LINCOLN  
 GEORGE ALICE HIGGS born 23 APR 1890 died 23 APR 1911  
 HARRY BIRKS LETALL a descendant of a French family who settled in ENGLAND after the 1<sup>st</sup> F. TALL born 1920. Revolution.  
 EDITH MARY HARRISON formerly of GAINSBORO





## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF OXFORDSHIRE.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BANBURY.

In the north corner of Oxfordshire, between the counties of Warwick and Northampton, and close by the Northamptonshire border, is situated the old town of Banbury, made famous by the cakes of that name since the year 1608. There once existed a fine old castle, built in 1125, of which only a few fragments of its ruin remain, and the ancient cross immortalized in nursery rhyme, which once existed here, has long since disappeared. Banbury is now a municipal borough and market town on the Cherwell, about fifteen miles north of Bicester, in this county, and its chief industries are the manufacturing of agricultural implements, sacking, ropes, bricks and tiles, also malting and brewing.

It was here that in the beginning of the seventeenth century a family of the name of EDENS resided; in fact a Charter having been granted to the Borough of Banbury, in the sixth year of the reign of *King James* of England, one EDWARD EDENS was town clerk, whilst one MARTIN EDEN was one of the two Sergeants of the Mace. What relation to these men was one NICODEMUS EDENS of Banbury the writer does not know, but in his service, evidently of a close and confidential nature, was one ROGER HIGGS, who died about 1610, and by his will, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in that year ("Wingfield", fo. 90), left money to charities and to the children of NICODEMUS EDENS. This ROGER HIGGS was a son of RICHARD HIGGS living in Oxfordshire, whose will is dated 20 March, 1592, and was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Oxford, 24 April, 1593 ('Arch. Oxon.', ser. I, vol. xii, fo. 228). ROGER HIGGS apparently had no issue, for none is mentioned by him in his will. He had three brothers, WILLIAM, RICHARD and THOMAS, and two sisters, MARGARET, who became the wife of RICHARD BUCKINGHAM of South Newnton, Oxon (by whom she had a son, ANTHONY BUCKINGHAM), and ELIZABETH, who married FRANCIS ATHPOLE of Barford, Oxfordshire.

RICHARD HIGGS married and had two sons, WILLIAM HIGGS and TIMOTHY HIGGS, and one daughter ANNA.

THOMAS HIGGS married, and by his wife KATHERINE had a son FRANCIS HIGGS and a daughter PHILLIPPA; to each of these ROGER HIGGS left money.

The Banbury Parish Register dates from 1558. This has not been examined and might throw more light upon this family, which probably settled in Oxfordshire, from Basildon in Berks.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BICESTER.

A family of HIGGSSES was settled in this place early in the eighteenth century if not before, as is proven by the will of one REBECCA HIGGS, a widow, who died about 1728. (*vide* P.C.C. Will "Brook", fo. 149, 1728). REBECCA HIGGS had two sons, WILLIAM HIGGS and EDWARD HIGGS; the former married and had a son EDWARD HIGGS, mentioned in his grandmother's will, and a daughter MARY; the latter also married, and left a daughter, ELIZABETH HIGGS.

BRIDGET, or BRIGETT, HIGGS, daughter-in-law of REBECCA HIGGS, was executor to REBECCA'S will. REBECCA HIGGS mentions a grandson RICHARD WINROW, and a granddaughter REBECCA WINROW; she also makes mention of "MARY, the wife of JOHN HIGGS".

The Bicester Parish Registers commence in 1558 (*vide* HIGGS family of Hampstead, Co. Middlesex).





## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF BURFORD.

Burford is a town in Oxfordshire, just over the Gloucestershire border, about seven miles from Witney, and about ten miles north to north-west of Farringdon, in Berkshire. This place has been associated with a branch of the HIGGS family from the early part of the sixteenth century. One WILLIAM HIGGS, mentioned in the 'History of Burford', written by W. J. Mond in 1891 (fo. 41) of this place bequeathed legacies to the poor of Burford, and to the Church, and willed to be buried "in the Chapel of our Lady in the Parish Church of Burford before the West Window". This was in 1544. His will, or rather an extract from same, reads as follows:

1544.

WILLIAM HIGGS of Burford bequeaths his body to be buried in the Chapel of our Lady in the Parish Church of Burford aforesaid before the West Window in the same Chapel. He bequeathed to the Mother Church of Oxon. *iiijd.* [*4d.*]; to the High Alter in the aforesaid Church *iiijd.* [*4d.*]; for the maintenance of the bells in the said Church *iijs.* *iiijd.* [*3/4*]; then unto the reparation of the said Church where need is *vjs.* *viiijd.* [*6/8*]. He then bequeathed the sum of *xvijs.* *viiijd.* [*18/8*] "To bring me to my burying". He then willed unto THOMAS WHITEHEAD *xxd.* [*20d.*] to pray for him; and to every priest in the Church *xiid.* [*12d.*]; and the residue of his estate was to be dealt amongst the poor folk "For to pray for me". Then he willed that there was to be *xxx* dozen of "Half-penny bread" to be "dealt out at my moneth's mynde (monthly anniversary of his burial) unto poor people and " *iiij* [*3*] quarten of malt made in wholesome drink to be given to the poor people at the same time". He then bequeathed unto *iiij* *4* poor men *iiij* [*4*] "Cotes [Coats] to every one of them one made ready to put on at my burial, to bear *iiij* [*4*] torches, and the said *iiij* men to be every Sunday in their cotes at the High Mass so carrying, if it may be conveniently without any other pediment at the sight of the Churchwardens and others of the Parish".

From this early will we get some idea of what ideas and customs were prevalent before the Reformation. What his social position was there is no indication, save that he was a benefactor to the poor, according to the custom of his time. One hundred years and more later we find THOMAS HIGGES of Colesbourne in Gloucestershire, Esqre., and Lord of the Manor of that place, owning a house in Burford, which he left by his will, proved in 1672 (P.C.C. "Eure", fo. 16), to his wife MARY, the daughter of Sir JOHN BERNARD, and after her decease this house was left to his son BERNARD HIGGS, though he is not mentioned by name in the will, other than by his "child". BERNARD HIGGS was his only surviving child at the time of his decease (*vide* HIGGS Family of Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester). How long this property at Burford remained in this family we do not know. It is possible that it had descended to the HIGGS family of Colesbourne from the WILLIAM HIGGS of Burford, who died in 1544.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF CROWMARSH GIFFORD AND NEWNHAM MURREN.

About one mile east of Wallingford, in Berkshire, on the Oxford bank of the River Thames, and about four miles from South Stoke, lies the little village of Crowmarsh Gifford, long associated with a branch of HIGGSSES, who settled in this place from South Stoke. Newnham Murren, another village only about a mile away, was settled by this branch of the family about the same time. JOHN HIGGS, the elder, of South Stoke (will proved 1624, 'Arch. Oxon.'), who married ALICE GILBERT at South Stoke 2 July, 1571, and who was a "kinsman" of the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS (*vide* 'MS. Rawlinson,' C. 421, Bodleian Library, Oxford), left at least two sons and four daughters:





1. WILLIAM HIGGS (of whom later).
2. JOHN HIGGS, who by his wife JOANE had one son :
  1. JOHN HIGGS, who married JANE CHUBB.
  - (1) ANN.
  - (2) MARY.
  - (3) SUSAN.
  - (4) SARAH.

(Note. —It was one of these daughters who married HENRIE HERVEY, who had a difference with his father-in-law JOHN HIGGS the elder, over which case the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS did his utmost, as recorded in Chapter III, to make a reconciliation.)

WILLIAM HIGGS, the elder son of JOHN HIGGS and ALICE GILBERT, his wife, settled at Newnham Murren, after marrying 4 March, 1621, at South Stoke, JOANE KEALE, of Chipping Hilley, in Oxfordshire. He died in 1633, and was buried in the churchyard of Nuneham Murren. His will was proved in that year (P.C.C. "Russell", fo. 45). He was a land-owner at Newnham Murren, South Stoke, Woodcote and Crowmarsh Gifford, and left land in all these parishes to his elder son WILLIAM, whilst his younger son JOHN likewise inherited land in South Stoke, Newnham Murren and Crowmarsh Gifford. He had also three daughters : (1) MARY, to whom her father left £60 ; (2) SARA, to whom her father left £50 ; and (3) ALICE, to whom her father bequeathed a like sum.

JOHN HIGGS, the younger son, married DOROTHY SHERFIELD, by whom he left upon his decease about 1647 (will proved P.C.C. "Fines", fo. 134, dated 1645) four sons and one daughter, at least, as follows :

1. WILLIAM HIGGS, the eldest son, who inherited all his father's lands in Crowmarsh Gifford and Newnham Murren and marrying left a son JOHN HIGGS who married SARAH and died about 1729 (of whom later).
2. JOHN HIGGS, who settled at Southcoat, near Reading, in Berkshire, and entered the service of LADY BLAGRAVE. Just in what capacity he served the BLAGRAVE family is not known — possibly as Bailiff or Steward ; it is evident, however, that he was on terms of intimate friendship with the family. LADY ROSE BLAGRAVE was a witness to his will (proved in 1670, P.C.C. "Penn", fo. 120), and he left the sum of 40s. to purchase a Memorial Ring for her Ladyship. Apparently by his wife LUCY — to whom he left £300 — he had no children, as he makes no mention of any in his will. He was buried at Reading, 31 August, 1670 (*vide* Registers, St. Mary's Church, Reading). He left £80 to his father.
3. BARTON HIGGS, to whom his brother John left £10.
4. BARTHOLOMEW HIGGS.
  - (1) DOROTHY, to whom her father left £150. She became the wife of — Foy of Staple Aston.

WILLIAM HIGGS of Crowmarsh Gifford and Newnham Murren, as shown above, left a son JOHN HIGGS, yeoman, of Crowmarsh Gifford and Newnham Murren. This JOHN HIGGS dated his will 5 January, 1729, and it was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Oxford 30 April, 1731. He left all his freeholds in Crowmarsh Gifford and Newnham Murren to his wife SARAH, by whom he had at least one son and four daughters :

1. WILLIAM HIGGS.
  - (1) MARY HIGGS, spinster, mentioned in both her father and mother's wills (her mother's will was dated 16 May, 1733, 'Arch. Berks', Reg. 23, fo. 1).
  - (2) MARTHA.
  - (3) ELIZABETH, who became the wife of RICHARD GOODALL.
  - (4) SARAH.

JOHN HIGGS and SARAH, his wife, moved from Crowmarsh Gifford and settled at Wallingford, in Berkshire, where they ended their days. The will of SARAH HIGGS, his wife, reads as follows :





## ABSTRACT.

16 May, 1733.

**In the Name of God, Amen :** I, SARAH HIGGS of Wallingford, Berks, Widow. I give to my daughter MARY HIGGS, spinster, three acres of land in Newnham Croft, in Newnham Murren, Co. Oxford, lately purchased by my late husband JOHN HIGGS from JOHN WILLMOTT; 6 acres in the "Kitching field" in Crowmarsh Gifford; two cow commons and one acre in "Churchfield" purchased by him of WILLIAM MANEY;  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres in "Crobrooke" in Crowmarsh; part of  $6\frac{1}{2}$  acres purchased by WILLIAM HIGGS, father of my said late husband, of MATTHEW CLARKE. To my daughter ELIZABETH, wife of RICHARD GOODALL, a messuage in Crowmarsh, in the occupation of JOHN WILLMOTT etc. My said daughter MARY, Sole Executrix.

X The mark of SARAH HIGGS.

Witnesses :

CORNELIUS NORTON.

J. GREENWOOD.

ANN SAPPIN.

Proved at Oxford 17 July, 1733, by the executrix named

Register "23", fo. 1, 'Arch. Berks'.

About this time JAMES HIGGS, Gentleman, son of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke by MARY COMBE, his wife, and grandson of BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke by ELEANOR WHISTLER, his wife, was Mayor of Wallingford.

As will have been noted in Chapter III, there were other families of HIGGSSES, all branches of the South Stoke family, settled in Crowmarsh Gifford and Newnham Murren, and many are the members of the family who lie buried in the churchyards of these two places. The registers of Crowmarsh Gifford commence in 1575, and of Newnham Murren in 1678. Neither of these parish registers have been examined for HIGGS entries, or the descendants of these families.

THE HIGGS ENTRIES IN THE PARISH REGISTERS OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,  
SOUTH STOKE, OR STOKE ABBAS, OXON.

*Weddings, 1557-1850 :*

- |       |           |  |
|-------|-----------|--|
| 1558. | 20 Oct.   | NICHOLAS HIGGS and MARY BARTON (something indecipherable added by another hand.  |
| 1567. | 4 May.*   | NICHOLAS HIGGE and MARGARETE (WHITELEY ?).   |
| 1571. | 2 Julie.* | JOHN HIGGE and ALICE GILBERT.  |
|       |           | ( <i>Note.</i> —Between 1573 and 1576 the husbands of four entries are obliterated.—W. M. H.)  |
| 1585. | 7 June.   | GRIFFITH HIGGE of South Stoke and SARA PAYNE of the parish of Caversham (Oxon.). Married at Caversham.   |
| 1600. | 4 Oct.    | JOHN HIGGE of the parish of Whitechurch and ELIZABETH ELIOTT of this parish.   |
| 1600. | 24 Nov.   | JOHN HIGGE, the son of JOHN HIGGS of the parish of South Stoke, and CHRISTIAN STILES of the parish of South Morton, widow. "This is that JOHN HIGGE by whom together with JOHN WYLDER was gotten to the (vechoos?) of the church that money (with?) more wherewith this booke was bought as in another place sayd and recorded." |
| 1607. | 22 Sept.  | BARTON HIGGE of this parish and ELEANOR WHISTLER of the parish of Goring.  |
| 1614. | 16 Oct.   | JOHN CLARKE and SUSAN HIGGE.   |
| 1621. | 4 Mar.    | WILLIAM HIGGS of Newnham Murren and JOANE KEALE of Chipping Ifley were marryed here.   |
| 1628. |           | HENRY BRISTOW of the parish of North Stoke and MARY HIGGE of this parish were maried uppon . . . (no date given).  |

\* Probably a cousin of NICHOLAS, who married MARY BARTON.





1633. 24 — HENRY B—— of Hackburne (Hagborn) and SARAH HIGGS of this parish. (? HENRY BARTON.)
1638. ? 10 Jan. JOHN BAKER and ANN HIGGS . . . (part torn away).
1648. 21 May. JOHN HIGGS, Senior, and ALICE CLUETT, both of South Stoke "were ioyned in matrimony".
1660. 22 Oct. RICHARD WILDER and ALICE HIGGS "both of this parish of South Stoke, Oxon., wer ioyned in matrimony".
1662. 22 May. BARTON HIGGS "inn" (Junior) of South Stoke, Oxon., and MARY COMBE of Milton, Berks, were married at Aston, Berks.



CROWMARSH GIFFORD CHURCH, OXFORDSHIRE, WHERE MANY MEMBERS OF THE HIGGS FAMILY WERE INTERRED.

(From a drawing made on the spot and on zinc by H. E. Relton.)

1662. 21 July. LEONARD HIGGS of Bassleton (Basildon), Berks and MARTHA CARTAR (CARTER) of Monksford, Berks, were ioyned in Matrimony at Moultsford Church.
1665. 17 April. WILLIAM "HIGGS" (HIGGS) and ANNE HARWOOD of Goring.
1666. 28 Jan. RICHARD HIGGS and RACHEL "BUCKRIDGE" (BUCKERIDGE) were married at Woodcot Chapel.
1669. 26 April. SIMON NEALE of Great Milton and SARAH "HIGGS" (HIGGS) of this parish.
1673. 22 Sept. WILLIAM MIDDLETON of Brytwell, Co. Berks, and SARA HIGGS, widd., of South Stoke, Co. Oxon., were married at Streatly.
1692. 13 Oct. THOMAS STEEDS and ESTHER HIGGS.
1694. 16 May. THOMAS (surname omitted) and MARTHA HIGGS.
1696. 25 Oct. JOHN HIGGS and MARY HARDING. (*Vide* illustration of their Marriage Settlement given in Chapter III.—W. M. H.)





1698.	29 Sept.	MATHEW BAKER and SARA HIGGS.
1709.	30 Oct.	JOHN HIGGS and MARTHA "HOSSIE" "wase married".
1713.	5 Nov.	THOMAS HIGGS and MAREY "BRISTO" (BRISTOW) "was maryed."
1725.	26 Dec.	"THOMA HICKS and ANN FRENCH was married." (THOMAS HICKS and ANN FRENCH.)
1757.	21 Feb.	JOHN LEWENDON of West Ibley, Co. Berks, and SARAH HIGGS of South Stoke, spinster.
1761.	31 Mar.	DAVID DECON of South Stoke, yeoman, and ELIZABETH HIGGS, by license.
1762.	16 Oct.	AARON LONDON of South Stoke and ELIZABETH HIGGS of South Stoke, spinster, by banns.
1765.	18 Nov.	WILLIAM HIGGS of South Stoke, farmer, and SARAH MASON of South Stoke, spinster, by license.
1767.	23 Feb.	THOMAS DODD of North Stoke and FRANCES HIGGS, spinster, of South Stoke, by license.
1771.	2 Oct.	THOMAS HIGGS of Streatley, in the county of Berks., widower, and MARY PARSONS of South Stoke, spinster, by license.
1771.	7 Nov.	WILLIAM WARD of South Stoke, yeoman, and MARY HIGGS of South Stoke, spinster, by license.
1781.	31 Jan.	THOMAS BROWN and MARY HIGGS, both of South Stoke, by banns.
1785.	21 Nov.	THOMAS HIGGS of South Stoke, "batchelor" and "minor", and ELIZABETH GROVER, by license.
1786.	18 Dec.	EDWARD EDWARDS of South Stoke, Widower, and URSULA HIGGS of South Stoke, spinster, by license.
1787.	5 July.	WILLIAM HIGGS of South Stoke, Bachelor, and MARTHA FIELD of South Stoke, spinster, by license.
1788.	26 May.	JOSEPH DODD of South Stoke, bachelor, and SARAH HIGGS of South Stoke, widow, by license.
1803.	26 Nov.	THOMAS COX, Clerk, of Swincombe, bachelor, and MARY HIGGS of South Stoke, spinster, by banns. ( <i>Both signed by mark.</i> )
1804.	4 June.	WILLIAM MOULDEN of South Stoke and SALLY HIGGS of South Stoke, by banns.
1812.	23 Nov.	JOHN GOODALL of Streatley and HESTER HIGGS of South Stoke, by banns.
1821.	5 May.	JOHN HUGGINS, bachelor, of South Stoke, and ELIZABETH HIGGS, spinster, of South Stoke, by banns.
1823.	23 Oct.	WILLIAM HIGGS, bachelor, of South Stoke, and HANNAH GUTHRIDGE, spinster, of South Stoke, by banns.
1829.	25 June.	STEPHEN RUMSEY, bachelor, of Chilton, Co. Berks, and SARAH FREWIN HIGGS, spinster, of South Stoke, by license.

*Baptisms, 1557-1850 :*

1572.	1 Feb.	WILLM HIGGE, the sonne of JOHN HIGGE.
1575.	5 Mar.	ANNE HIGGE, the daughter of JOHN HIGGE.
1577.	9 April.	NICHOLAS HIGGE, the sonne of WILLIAM HIGGE.
1578.	28 Mar.	JOHN HIGGE, the sonne of JOHN HIGGE by ALICE his wife.
1580.	28 Jan.	MARY HIGGE, the daughter of JOHN HIGGE by ALICE his wife.
1583.	1 Sept.	SUSANNE HIGGE, the daughter of JOHN HIGGE by ALICE his wife.
1586.	20 June.	BARTON HIGGE, the sonne of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARAH his wife.
1586.	6 Nov.	SARA HIGGE, the daughter of JOHN HIGGE by ALICE his wife.
1587.	18 Oct.	MARY HIGGE, daughter of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARA his wife.
1589.	28 Oct.	GRIFFITH HIGGE, the sonne of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARA his wife.

(*Note.*—This was the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS's baptismal entry, who became Dean of Lichfield, and a Chaplain of King Charles I: *vide* Chapter III.—W. M. H.)

1591.	14 Nov.	SARA HIGGE, daughter of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARA his wife.
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1593.	8 July.	SUSAN HIGGE, daughter of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARA his wife.
1594.	30 June.	MAGDALEN HIGGE, daughter of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARA his wife.
1596.	13 Feb.	PRUDENCE HIGGE, the daughter of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARA his wife.
1598.	1 Oct.	RICHARD HIGGE, the sonne of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARA his wife.
1600.	5 Oct.	NICHOLAS HIGGE, the sonne of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARA his wife. ( <i>Note</i> .—This is the record of the baptism of NICHOLAS HIGGS, who settled at Henwick by Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks: <i>vide</i> Chapter IV. — W. M. H.)
1608.	30 Oct.	GRIFFITH HIGGE, the son of BARTON HIGGE by ELEANOR his wife.
1610.	1 Aug.	ELEANOR HIGGS, daughter of BARTON HIGGE by ELEANOR his wife.
1612.	25 Nov.	MARY HIGGE, daughter of BARTON HIGGE by ELEANOR his wife.
1614.	18 Dec.	CHRISTIAN HIGGE, daughter of JOHN HIGGE (junr.) by CHRISTIAN his wife.
1615.	7 May.	SARA HIGGE, daughter of BARTON HIGGE, by Eliono, hys wyfe.
1617.	— — —	BARTON HIGGES, the sonne of BARTON HIGGES by ELEONOR his wife. (No month or day given.)
1619.	26 Dec.	WILLM HIGGES, sonne of BARTON HIGGES by ELEANOUR his wife.
1621.	24 Feb.	ELIZABETH HIGGS, daughter of BARTON HIGGS by ELEANOR his wife.
1624.	3 Jan.	MAGDALEN HIGGES, daughter of BARTON HIGGES by ELEANOR his wife.
1627.	29 July.	JOHN HIGGS, sonne of BARTON HIGGE by ELEANOR his wife.
1638.	6 Mar.	WILLIAM HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS the younger by JOANE his wife.
1639.	14 June.	WILLIAM HIGGS, the son of WILLIAM HIGGS by JANE his wife.
1640.	15 Nov.	JANE HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS by JANE his wife.
1642.	11 April.	JOHN HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS and JANE his wife.
1643.	19 Mar.	THOMAS HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS the younger and JOANE his wife.
1644.	10 Aug.	JANE HIGGS, the daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS and JANE hys wyf. (This entry is very indistinct.—W. M. H.)
1645.	27 July.	RICHARD HIGGS, ye sonne of JOHN HIGGS ye younger by JOANE his wyf. (In margin, "RICHARD HIGGS".)
1648.	13 Dec.	GRIFFITH HIGGS, ye son of JOHN HIGGS by JOANE his wife.
1652.	27 Nov.	NATHANEOLL HIGGS, ye son of WILLIAM HIGGS by JANE his wife.
1654.	12 June.	BARTHOLOMEW HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS by JOANE his wife.
1656.	17 July.	MARY HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS by JANE his wife.
1663.	11 May.	MARY HIGGS, daughter of BARTON HIGGS "jun" (Junior) by MARY his wife, "baptised 11 May being borne afore on 12 April, being Psalme Sunday".
1664.	9 May.	ANNE HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS junior by ELIZABETH, his wife.
1664.	22 Dec.	BARTON HIGGS, the son of 'BARTON HIGGS' by Mary his wife.
1665.	28 Jan.	ANNE HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS by ANNE his wife.
1666.	22 April.	WILLIAM HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife.
1666.	17 Sept.	ELIANOR HIGGS, daughter of "BARTON HIGGE" by MARY his wife.
1666.	30 Dec.	ESTHER HIGGS, daughter of JOHN HIGGS by ANNE his wife.
1667.	10 Dec.	JOHN HIGGE, son of RICHARD HIGGE by RACHEL his wife.
1667.	9 Feb.	MARY HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS by ANN his wife, born and baptized 9 February.
1668.	27 July.	JOHN HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife, born 28 June.
1668.	26 Oct.	JOHN HIGGS, son of "BARTON" HIGGS by MARY his wife, born 24 February.





1669. 12 April. MARY HIGGS, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS by RACHEL his wife, born 9 April.
1669. 11 Nov. ELIZABETH HIGGE (HIGGE), daughter of JOHN HIGGE by ANNE his wife; born 11 November.
1670. 2 June. ELIZABETH HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS, by ELIZABETH his wife.
1670. 10 Oct. ELEANOR HIGGS, ye daughter of "BARTTON" "HIGGS" (BARTON HIGGS) by MARY his wife, their second daughter of ye name.
1672. 3 May. MARTHA HIGGS, daughter of JOHN HIGGS by ANNE his wife, born 9 April.
1672. 16 June. GRIFFITH HIGGE, son of BARTON HIGGE by MARY his wife.
1672. 9 Sept. JOHN and BARTON HIGGS (BARTON HIGGS) the sons of JOHN HIGGS (HIGGS) by JOANE his wife, born 9 September.
1672. 11 Oct. RICHARD HIGGS, son of RICHARD HIGGS by DOROTHY his wife, born 11 October.
1673. 14 July. MARY HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife, born 12 June.
1674. 7 April. ANNE HIGGS, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS by DOROTHY his wife.
1674. 20 Sept. BARTON HIGGE (BARTON HIGGS), second son of that name of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife.
1674. 6 Dec. MARY HIGGS, daughter of JOHN HIGGS by ANN his wife.
1675. 17 Jan. JOHN HIGGS, son of RICHARD HIGGS (HIGGS) by DOROTHY his wife.
1676. 11 Mar. JOHN HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS (HIGGS) by ANNE his wife.
1676. 28 Dec. THOMAS HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS (HIGGS) by ANNE his wife.
1677. 11 Dec. ANNE HIGGS, the second daughter of RICHARD HIGGS of that name by DOROTHY his wife.
1678. 8 April. SAMUEL HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife.
1679. 22 June. JAMES HIGGS, son of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife.
1679. 3 Dec. GEORGE HIGGE, son of RICHARD HIGGE, by DOROTHY his wife.
1680. 12 July. ALICE HIGGS, daughter of JOHN HIGGS by SUSAN his wife.
1680. 27 Dec. ESTHER HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife.
1681. 1 Aug. WILLIAM HIGGS, son of RICHARD HIGGS by DOROTHY his wife.
1682. 7 May. MARY HIGGS, daughter of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife; their second daughter of that name.
1682. 14 May. BARTON HIGGS, the son of JOHN HIGGS by SUSAN his wife, his second son of that name; born 14 May.
1683. 16 April. THOMAS HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife.
1683. 30 April. DOROTHY HIGGS, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS and DOROTHY his wife.
1684. 25 Feb. ELIZABETH HIGGS, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS by DOROTHY his wife.
1686. 6 Dec. RICHARD HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife.
1688. 3 Sept. BARTHOLOMEW HIGGS, the son of RICHARD HIGGS by DOROTHY his wife.
1692. 23 July. ESTHER HIGGS, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS by DOROTHY his wife.

*(Continued at the end of book after Marriages and Burials.)*

1698. 7 Dec. MARY HIGGS, daughter of JOHN HIGGS by MARY his wife.
1705. 22 May. MARY, daughter of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife.
1706. 10 Mar. ELENOR HIGGS, daughter of BARTON HIGGS and MARY his wife.
1709. 17 Oct. BARTON HIGGS, son of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife.
1709. 1 Nov. ELIZABETH HIGGS, daughter of JOHN HIGGS by MARTHA his wife.
1711. 26 Aug. MARY HIGGS, daughter of JOHN HIGGS by MARTHA his wife.
1711. 2 Sept. WILLIAM HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS and ELIZABETH his wife.
1713. 1 April. "JEAME HIGG" (JAMES HIGGS), son of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife.
1714. 15 Feb. RICHARD HIGGS, son of RICHARD HIGGS by MARY his wife; born 25 January.





1714.	21 Feb.	ELANEAR HIGGS, dafter of BARTON HIGGS by MAREY his wife, the second of that name, born 25 January.
1715.	14 April.	JOHN HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife.
1715.	15 "Jolly".	JOHN HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS by MARTHA his wife.
1715.	9 Oct.	THOMAS HIGGS, son of THOMAS HIGGS by MAREY his wife.
1716.	10 Mar.	WILLIAM HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS by MARTHA his wife.
1716.	11 Sept.	SARA HIGGS, daughter of BARTEN HIGGS by MAREY his wife.
1716.	20 Nov.	GEORG. HIGGS, son of RICHARD HIGGS by MAREY his wife.
1717.	15 Feb.	MARY HIGGS, dafter of THOMAS HIGGS by MAREY his wife.
1717.	3 June.	THOMAS HIGGS, son of THOMAS HIGGS by HANA his wife.
1717.	28 Nov.	SAMWELL HIGG (SAMUEL HIGGS), son of WILLIAM HIGG by ELIZABET his wife.
1718.	25 Mar.	MARTHA HIGGS, dafter of JOHN HIGGS by MARTHA his wife.
1718.	3 Aug.	MAREY HIGGS, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS by MAREY his wife.
1719.	15 Feb.	HOLLON THOMAS HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS, by ELIZABETH, his wife. (Note.—This is an unusually early entry of a double baptismal name.—W. M. H.)
1719.	12 Oct.	JE. JEAMS HIGGS (JAMES HIGGS), son of BARTON HIGGS by MAREY his wife.
1720.	27 Jan.	ELIZABETH HIGGS, dafter of THOMAS HIGGS by MAREY his wife.
1720.	22 May.	ELIZABETH HIGGS, dafter of THOMAS HIGGS by HANA his wife.
1720.	6 Sept.	ELIZABETH HIGGS, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS by MAREY his wife.
1721.	26 Mar.	DOROTHY (spelt DOROTY), daughter of RICHARD HIGGS by MAREY his wife.
1722.	20 Jan.	FRANCES HIGGS, daughter of THOMAS HIGG by MAREY his wife.
1722.	13 Dec.	SAMOEL (SAMUEL) HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife.
1725.	21 Oct.	THOMAS HIGGS, son of (? WILLIAM written over something else) by ELIZABETH his wife.
1741.	16 Mar.	ELIZABETH HIGGS, dafter of JOHN HIGGS, by "URSLEY", his wife.
1741.	18 May.	THOMAS HIGGS, son of THOMAS HIGGS by "SARO" his wife.
1743.	7 May.	JOHN HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS, by SARO, his wife.
1745.	18 June.	SARAH HIGGS, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS by SARAH his wife.
1746.	10 Oct.	JOHN, son of JOHN HIGGS by URSLY his wife.
1751.	11 Mar.	JAMES, son of JOHN and ANN HIGGS.
1752.	19 Feb.	URSULA, daughter of JOHN and URSULA HIGGS.
1752.	30 Aug.	ANN, daughter of THOMAS and ANN HIGGS.
1754.	9 June.	JEREMIAH, son of THOMAS and ANN HIGGS.
1756.	20 June.	THOMAS, son of JOHN and URSLEY HIGGS.
1766.	3 Nov.	ELIZABETH, daughter of JO. and ELIZABETH HICKS.
1767.	3 Mar.	RICHARD MASON, son of WILLIAM and SARAH HIGGS. (Note.—Up to the nineteenth century a good many of the entries are badly written, very much mixed up and illegible in places. It will be noted how the spelling varies, and also how little attention was given to capital letters.—W. M. H.)
1787.	17 April.	ROSANNA, daughter of GEORGE HIGG and ELIZABETH his wife.
1787.	27 Sept.	ELIZABETH, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS and ELIZABETH his wife.
1787.	— Dec.	SEDENNEA, daughter of RICHARD MASON HIGGS and MARY his wife.
1789.	22 Feb.	JAMES, son of JOSEPH HICKS and ANN his wife.
1790.	25 July.	"THOMAS HIGGS, son of WILLIAM and MARY WARD."
1793.	13 Oct.	BETT, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS and ELIZABETH his wife.
1795.	14 Oct.	JAMES, son of THOMAS and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1795.	25 Oct.	RICHARD, son of RICHARD MASON HIGGS and MARY his wife.
1798.	25 Dec.	JOHN, son of THOMAS HIGGS and ELIZABETH his wife.
1799.	25 Dec.	ELIZABETH, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS and MARY his wife.
1807.	13 Jan.	THOMAS IRWIN, son of WILLIAM HIGGS and MARTHA his wife.





1811. 24 Feb. MARY AUBREY, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS and MARTHA, his wife.  
 1811. 24 Feb. RICHARD SADLER, son of JAMES HIGGS and MARTHA his wife.  
 1813. 20 June. JOHN, son of WILLIAM and MARTHA HIGGS.

*Entries in the New Register.*

1813. 20 June. JOHN, son of WILLIAM and MARTHA HIGGS of South Stoke (Carpenter).  
 (Evidently entered in both the old and new Register, probably by desire from sentimental reasons.—W. M. H.)  
 1816. 19 Sept. MARTHA, daughter of WILLIAM and MARTHA HIGGS of South Stoke (Carpenter).  
 1822. 10 Nov. WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and MARTHA HIGGS of South Stoke (Shop-keeper).  
 1824. 26 Sept. MARTHA, daughter of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS of South Stoke (Labourer).  
 1826. 17 Dec. JOHN, son of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS of South Stoke (Carter).  
 1828. 10 Aug. SARAH, daughter of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS of South Stoke (Carter).  
 1831. 12 June. MARY, daughter of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS (Labourer).  
 1834. 2 Mar. JANE, daughter of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS of Cholsey (Labourer).  
 1834. 18 May. CAROLINE, daughter of THOMAS and MARTHA HIGGS of South Stoke (Labourer).  
 1835. 11 Oct. JANE, daughter of THOMAS and ELIZABETH HIGGS of Woodcote (Labourer).  
 1835. 25 Dec. SAMUEL, son of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS of South Stoke (Labourer).  
 1838. 1 July. MARY ANN, daughter of THOMAS and ELIZABETH HIGGS of South Stoke (Labourer).  
 1839. 13 Oct. JOSEPH, son of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS of South Stoke (Labourer).  
 1840. 5 April. PATIENCE, daughter of THOMAS and ELIZABETH HIGGS of South Stoke (Labourer).  
 1842. 13 Mar. ANN, daughter of WILLIAM and HANNAH HIGGS of South Stoke (Labourer).  
 1849. 11 Nov. CHARLES, son of THOMAS and ELIZABETH HIGGS of South Stoke (Labourer).  
 1849. 11 Nov. MARK, son of THOMAS and ELIZABETH HIGGS of South Stoke (Labourer).

(*Note*.—It is strange how in the nineteenth century the family status seems to have dropped from the influential yeoman to that of farm labourers, carters and local shop-keepers. One branch alone seems to have maintained the old social standing in the district, namely, the descendants of WILLIAM HIGGS and MARTHA (probably FREWIN) his wife. This family intermarried, as shown in the account of the CORDEROY family, with the CORDEROYS of Blewbury Mills by the marriage of SARAH FREWIN HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM and MARTHA HIGGS of South Stoke with STEPHEN RUMSEY of Chilton, Co. Berks, whose daughter married JUSTUS CORDEROY in 1851. SARAH FREWIN RUMSEY, *née* HIGGS, was a sister of WILLIAM HIGGS who settled at Goring, about one and a half miles from South Stoke, where he built up a very successful business as a building contractor.

It would appear from the Register of Baptisms that a number of entries are missing between the years 1767 and 1807, which is most unfortunate for tracing out correctly the line of descent of this family now in Goring.)





*Burials, 1557-1850 :*

- \*1557. 21 July. NICHOLAS HIGGE.  
 1593. 25 July. SUSANNE HIGGE, daughter of GRIFFITH HIGGE.  
 1597. 3 June. PRUDENCE HIGGE, daughter of GRIFFITH HIGGE.  
 1602. 26 Jan. SARA HIGGE, the sayd wife of GRIFFITH HIGGE.  
 1602. 19 Nov. SARA HIGGE, daughter of GRIFFITH HIGGE by SARA his wife.  
 1622. 20 Mar. WILLIAM HIGGS, sonne of BARTON HIGGS.  
 1622. 21 Dec. ALICE HIGGS, wife of JOHN HIGGS the elder.  
 1624. 3 Oct. JOHN HIGGS.  
 1640. 9 Dec. JANE HIGGS, daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS by JANE his wife.  
 1650. 30 Dec. JOHN HIGGS, senior, of South Stoke.  
 1656. 5 Sept. MARY HIGGS, infant daughter of WILLIAM HIGG by JANE his wife.  
 1659. 19 Dec. " Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, Doctor of Divinity, sometime Chaplaine to ye Queene of Bohemia, and afterward Chaplaine to his Majesty CHARLES 1, King of Great Brittain etc. etc., Deane of Litchfield. Died on ye 15th day of December being then 70 years of age, and was buried on ye 19 of ye same instant December Añõ Dõm 1659."  
 1663. 16 Aug. JOHN HIGGS, Senior, of South Stoke.  
 1667. 27 June. WILLIAM HIGGS, the elder.  
       (*Note.*—Will proved 'Arch. Oxon.', 22 October, 1667.—W. M. H.)  
 1667. 13 Dec. JOHN HIGGS, son of RICHARD HIGGS by RACHEL his wife died at the age of 13 days and was buried 13 December.  
 1669. 14 May. MARY HIGGE their daughter buried before ("before" written above "buried") in the little Chappell yard in Westminster (St. Margaret's Church).  
 1669. 23 July. ELIANOR HIGGE, wife of BARTON HIGGE, died 20 July, 1669, and BARTON HIGGS her husband dyed 22 July following and weare both buried in one grave 23 July, 1669.  
 1670. 25 Aug. ELYANOR HIGGS, daughter of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife.  
 1671. 18 Jan. MARY HIGGS, daughter of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife.  
 1673. 16 Aug. JOANE HIGGS, wife of JOHN HIGGS.  
 1674. 28 Mar. BARTON HIGGS, son of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife.  
 1674. 19 April. BARTON HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS by JOANE his wife.  
 1675. 27 April. MARY HIGGS, daughter of JOHN HIGGS and ANN his wife.  
 1675. 7 Dec. ANNE HIGGS, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS by DOROTHY his wife.  
 1681. 19 Aug. ALICE HIGGS, daughter of JOHN HIGGS and SUSAN his wife.  
 1682. 1 May. WILLIAM HIGGS, son of RICHARD HIGGS by DOROTHE his wife.  
 1682. 30 Aug. BARTON HIGGS, son of JOHN HIGGS by SUSAN his wife.  
 1683. 14 Feb. ELYANOR HIGGS.  
       (*Note.*—Spinster of South Stoke, will dated 11 February, 1683, Ser. II, vol. xi, fo. 337, proved 'Arch. Oxon.'—W. M. H.)  
 1683. 26 Mar. JOHN HIGGS, Senior (Yeoman).  
       (*Note.*—Will proved, 'Arch. Oxon.', A. inv., 28 April, 1683, Ser. II, vol. xi, fo. 297.—W. M. H.)  
 1686. 9 April. MARY HIGGS, daughter of BARTON HIGGS by MARY his wife.  
 1687. 17 Feb. JEAN HIGGS, widow.  
 1690. 27 Sept. BARTON HIGGS, Senior, buried at the age of 73 years.  
 1692. 17 Feb. GRIFFITH HIGGS, who died 15th and was buried 17th February.  
 1700. 9 Nov. DOROTHY, wife of RICHARD HIGGS.  
 1701. 12 June. ELIZABETH HIGGS, daughter of RICHARD HIGGS.  
 1708. 21 Oct. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
       (*Note.*—Will proved 9 May, 1709, 'Arch. Oxon.', Ser. II, vol. xiii, fo. 337.—W. M. H.)  
 1710. 9 June. MAREY HIGGS, widow.  
 1711. 4 Aug. ELIZABETH HIGGS, dafter of WILLIAM HIGGS by ELIZABETH his wife.

\* It would indeed be interesting to know the relationship between this NICHOLAS HIGGE, buried one year before NICHOLAS HIGGES (who settled in South Stoke from Weobley, Co. Hereford, in company with his uncle WALTER) married MARY BARTON.—W. M. H.





1711. 24 Sept. ELENOR HIGGS, dafter of BARTON HIGGS and MAREY his wife.  
 1713. 3 April. JAMES HIGGS, son of BARTON HIGGS by MAREY his wife.  
 1715. 8 Juen (?) ELINNOR HIGGS.  
 1716/17. 22 Mar. JOAN HIGGS, dater of JOHN HIGG "JAN<sup>E</sup>" his wife.  
 (Note.—The Calendar year terminating and commencing in March at this period both years are given.—W. M. H.)  
 1717. 26 Aug. JOHN HIGGS.  
 1720. 22 or 24 April. SAMOELL (SAMUEL) HIGGS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1721. 25 Oct. ELIZABETH HIGGS, dafter of RICHARD HIGGS by MAREY his wife.  
 1726. 17 Dec. RICHARD HIGGS.  
 1728. 5 Feb. JEAN HIGGS.  
 1729. 21 June. WILLIAM HIGG and ELIZABETH his wif was buried.  
 1730. 14 April. HANA HIGG.  
 1731. 21 April. ELIZABETH HIGGS.  
 1735. 2 Dec. MAREY HIGGS.  
 1740. 12 Aug. RICHARD HIGGS.  
 1742. 27 July. JEAMS (JAMES) HIGGS.  
 1743/4. 21 Mar. JOHN HIGGS.  
 1744/5. 5 May. GEORGE HIGGS.  
 1745. 14 Oct. The Widow HIGGS.

(Continued after some Weddings).

1746. 20 Mar. RICHARD HIGGS.  
 1749. 21 Aug. MARY HIGGS.  
 1754. 24 Jan. ELIZABETH HIGGS.  
 1761. 30 Sept. THOMAS HIGGS from Goring.  
 1764. 29 Oct. JOHN HIGGS.  
 1766. 20 July. SAMUEL HIGGS.  
 1766. — Oct. JEREMIAH and ANN HIGGS. (No date of month.)  
 1767. 22 Nov. MARY HIGGS.  
 1768. 21 April. THOMAS HIGGS.  
 1770. 15 July. SARAH, daughter of JOSEPH and ANN HIGGS.  
 (Note.—At the end of the book appears: "Doctor GRIFFITH HIGGS, D.D., died 16 December, 1659, aged 70".)

*New Register.*

(Stamp duty of 3d. commences here.)

1785. 8 Mar. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1786. 22 Nov. URSULA HIGGS.  
 1787. 20 Oct. SARAH HIGGS.  
 1788. 27 Jan. SEDINNEA HIGGS.  
 1788. 9 Dec. SARAH HIGGS.  
 1789. 18 Jan. ANN HIGGS.  
 1790. 4 Aug. THOMAS HIGGS, WARD (an infant).  
 1793. 20 Mar. THOMAS HIGGS.  
 1793. 20 Aug. ELIZABETH HIGGS.  
 1794. 18 Jan. MARTHA HIGGS from Wallingford.  
 1794. 2 April. WILLIAM HIGGS.  
 1799. 27 Nov. THOMAS HIGGS.

*New Register.*

(It appears that two new books were in use. Some of the above entries seem to be the date of death, and a second entry the date of burial.)

1815. 26 Sept. MARTHA HIGGS of South Stoke, aged 6 weeks.  
 1824. 27 June MARY MASON HIGGS of Woodcote, aged 15 months.  
 1830. 9 Mar. ELIZABETH HIGGS of South Stoke, aged 67.  
 1830. 8 July. ELIZABETH HIGG of Woodcote, aged 76.  
 1834. 6 June. MARTHA HIGGS of Cholsey, aged 9.  
 1836. 16 Oct. MARY HIGGS of South Stoke, aged 71.





1843.	3 Jan.	WILLIAM HIGGS of South Stoke, aged 68.
1845.	1 Aug.	ISAAC HIGGS of South Stoke (infant).
1848.	25 Sept.	THOMAS FREWEN HIGGS of South Stoke, aged 41.
1849.	12 Jan.	THOMAS HIGGS of South Stoke, aged 81.
1849.	25 Nov.	RICHARD HIGGS of South Stoke, aged 83.
1856.	27 Aug.	WILLIAM HIGGS, son of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS, aged 8.

In the cover of the register appears the following :

" In this place was born Dr. GRIFFIN HIGGS, Fellow of Merton College and Proctor of the University (of Oxford) after which in 1627, he was sent chaplain to the Queen (Elizabeth) of Bohemia, in which office he continued 12 years, and in that time was created Doctor of Divinity at Leyden by the famous Andrew Rivet. Being called home by the King (Charles I) he was, by the favour of Archbishop Laud made Rector of Cliffe in Kent, Chantor of St. Davids and Dean of Litchfield 1638. Upon the breaking out of the Civil Wars he was plundered and stript of all his spiritualities : wherefore to escape further molestation he returned to this place of his nativity and spent his days in privacy, study, and devotion. He died 16 December 1659 (& lies buried in the Chancel of this Church on the North Side). He gave £5 to the Church here, £100 to buy land towards the maintenance of the poor ; £600 to purchase £30 per annum for a Schoolmaster to teach school here. The Warden & Fellows of Merton College, Oxford to erect the School and be patrons of it for ever "

The above extract from ' Magna Brittannia ', 1727, vol. iv, p. 428.

(\* *N.B.*— " I have not been able to find any record or tradition that any school ever was erected here by Dr. HIGGS's executors. The utmost I can obtain for the school fund is £26 per annum. (Signed) P. H. NIND, Vicar.")

" ANNE WOLLOSCOTT, the daughter of EDWARD WOLLOSCOTT, Esquire (Lord of this Manor) by Mrs. ANNE WOLLOSCOTT, his wife, was baptised Uppon the VIth. of November Ano Regni Regis Caroli : Anglii etc. primo Anno Dñi 1625."

" WILLIAM WOLLOSCOTT, the sonne of the Aforesayd EDWARD WOLLOSCOTT by the sayd ANNE WOLLOSCOTT his wyfe was Baptised uppon the Vth of february Anno Regni Regis Caroli : Anglii : etc tertio Anno Dñi 1627."

" These two children aforesaid were not Baptised in this Parish but by the request and desire of theyr aforesayd parents they were registered in this booke by me BARTONUM Hyggs, Script."

These entries are in one handwriting which is very neat and regular. Quite the best in the early registers.—W. M. II.

\* The reason has subsequently come to light and has been given in this work.—W. M. II.

#### INSCRIPTIONS UPON GRAVESTONES IN THE CHURCHYARD.

Sacred

to the memory of

WILLIAM HIGGS

who died January 23rd 1843

aged 68 years

Beneath this stone his ashes rest  
Whose memory fills my aching breast  
He sleeps unconscious of the tears  
That tell the tale of sorrow here

Also

MARTHA, his beloved wife

who died June 13th, 1861

aged 83 years





(Upon a painted board between two posts lengthways over the grave.)

In memory of WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS  
who died August 27th 1856 aged 8 years.

(Upon the reverse side)

When blooming youth is snatched away  
By Death's resistless hand  
Our hearts the mournful tribute pay  
Which pity must demand.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF WHITCHURCH.

Whitchurch occupies a position on the southern boundary of the county of Oxford. Opposite to this parish, on the Berkshire bank of the River Thames, is Pangbourne. In both of these parishes HIGGS families were settled at an early date without doubt from the settlements at South Stoke, Oxon, and Basildon, in Berks. The parish of Whitchurch adjoins that of Goring, in Oxfordshire, on the north, with the parish of Mapledurham on the east. Its history dates from Saxon times, and the remains of a Roman encampment are still to be traced in the centre of this parish. The Manor of Whitchurch was in the Whistler family for generations, a family allied by marriage to the HIGGSSES of South Stoke (*vide* Chapter II). This family was succeeded by Mr. S. Gardiner as Lord of the Manor, at the end of the eighteenth century. He was a retired West India merchant. It remained in his family up to recent date, when Mr. JOHN FOSTER, of the well-known firm of that name, of Queensbury, near Bradford, purchased it.

As early as 1586, and before that date, Whitchurch was associated with the HIGGS family. One THOMAS HIGGS lived here in the sixteenth century, and in the Archdeaconry and Consistory Courts of Oxford an inventory of his goods is preserved under date of 21 January, 1586. In the 'History of Whitchurch', by the Rev. JOHN SLATTER, M.A., Rector of the Parish, and Hon. Canon of Christ Church, published by Messrs. Elliot Stock, London, in 1895, very much interesting history of this ancient Oxfordshire parish is to be gathered. In a list given (fo. 59) of the inhabitants who paid quarterly to the poor of the parish, in 1569 we find THOMAS HIGGS (spelt HYGGS) subscribing 3*d.* per annum (not to be reckoned at the rate of present-day money value), whilst one HENRY HIGGS paid 1*d.* quarterly. THOMAS HIGGS or HYGGS was, no doubt, the same THOMAS who died about 1586, and HENRY HIGGS was with little doubt one of his sons. WILLIAM HIGGS also paid ii*d.* (3*d.*) to the poor fund quarterly in 1586, and was with little doubt another son; whilst a THOMAS HIGGS subscribed j*d.* (1*d.*) in 1590, and HENRY HIGGS's name also appears in this list. So it may be conjectured that THOMAS HIGGS, whose inventory was recorded in 1569, had three sons—namely THOMAS, HENRY and WILLIAM. HENRY HIGGS owned "A quarterne of Land in Whitchurch" in 1588. There were 34 different landowners in the parish at this date, and the land is in divisions of "Yards" and "Quarternes", the largest landowners being Mr. HENRY KNAPP (iii yards), Mr. LIBBE (2 yards), Mr. BODE ("di." yard), Widow SPARROCK (1 yard), and Mr. RICHARD KNAPP (1 yard); the rest held ii*j* quarternes (3), "di." quarterne, or a quarterne of land.

Mr. SLATTER says: "The 'Yard' is probably the same as formerly the 'virgate', and that very elastic term is here no doubt the same as "carucate", which in Mercia seems to have been 120 acres. In Wessex it was 160 acres, as may be proved by the extent of Fulscote Farm, in South Moreton, which is 322 acres, of which two constitute the site of the house and yard, and 320 the arable land surrounded by a deep ditch. This is 'Follescote' in 'Domesday Book', belonging to ROGER DE LEIFRID, which is put at being 'two carucates'. But in Oxfordshire the same estimate will not hold,





and in Whitchurch there are said to be fifteen carucates, which at the above rate gives 1800 acres, which, allowing for wood and the common, is about the extent of the parish below the Gate. From this, if there is subtracted the common meadow, and the extent of the houses and gardens gradually ascending the main street, the extent in 1588 is arrived at without much difficulty". It would appear, therefore, that HENRY HIGGS owned about 30 acres here in 1588.

The registers of Whitchurch commence in 1597. These have not been examined for the descendants of any of these three HIGGSSES, THOMAS, HENRY and WILLIAM.

We find one, JAMES HIGGS, a cordwainer by trade, living in Whitchurch in the seventeenth century. He married MARY, the daughter and co-heir of ROGER YOUNGE, by IZADORE YATES, his wife. ROGER YOUNGE was first cousin of Sir WILLIAM YOUNGE, of Basildon, who died without issue, and became his heir. MARY HIGGS (*née* YOUNGE) became the sole heir of ROGER, her father, as JANE and ISSIDA, her sisters, died without issue. JAMES HIGGS, her husband, died about 1679; his will was dated 12 September in that year, and was proved in the 'Arch. Berks.' (Ser. II, vol. ii, fo. 95). They had three sons, JAMES, WILLIAM and JOHN, and three daughters, ANN, MARY and MARTHA.

Between JAMES HIGGS, the eldest son, and WILLIAM HIGGS of Whitchurch, Cordwainer, came quite a lawsuit, both claiming the Manor of Basildon, in right of their mother, the heiress of Sir WILLIAM YOUNGE, Knt. The details of this suit are given under Chancery Proceedings (*vide* HIGGS family of Basildon and YOUNG Pedigree).

JAMES HIGGS of Whitchurch moved to Aldermaston, in Berkshire. He married Elizabeth ———, and they became the ancestors of a family of HIGGSSES of that place (*vide* HIGGS Family of Aldermaston, Co. Berks.). WILLIAM HIGGS of Whitchurch apparently did not marry. His will was proved 13 June, 1715 ('Arch. Oxon.', Ser. II, vol. 15, fo. 43), and under the will of Sir WILLIAM YOUNGE, Knt. of Basildon, it would appear that WILLIAM, the third son of JAMES HIGGS, who settled at Aldermaston, would have been the next heir to the Manor of Basildon, but he predeceased his uncle WILLIAM, dying about 1710 (*vide* Admon. WILLIAM HIGGS, 9 May, 1710, 'Arch. Oxon.', "B", fo. 315). Who, therefore, was the next heir to the Manor of Basildon of the name of "WILLIAM" under the will of Sir WILLIAM YOUNGE, Knt.? (*vide* Chancery Proceedings, HIGGS v. HIGGS and Others, 1698, "Bridges", 134/33).

#### LIST OF HIGGS WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS IN THE ARCHDEACONRY AND CONSISTORY COURTS OF OXFORD AT SOMERSET HOUSE, LONDON (1545-1729).

\* Examined in preparation of this work.

Will or administration.	Date.	Name.	Place of abode.	Reference.
*Will	1545 Nov. 14	WYLLYAM HYGGE	Bloxham	Ser. I, vol. 2, fo. 110.
*Will	1546 May 12	HENRY HYGGE	Bloxham	Ser. I, vol. 2, fo. 150.
Inventory	1586 Jan. 21	THOMAS HIGGS	Whitchurch	..
*Will	1593 April 24	RICHARDE HIGGES	..	Ser. I, vol. 12, fo. 228.
*Will	1593 April 24	THOMAS HIGGES	..	Ser. I, vol. 12, fo. 217.
Will	1596 Jan. 15	HENNE HIGGS (Yeoman)	Whitchurch	Ser. I, vol. 10, fo. 366.
Will	1624 Mar. 8	JOHN HIGGES, Sen.	South Stoke	..
Will	1644 April 19	WILLIAM HIGGES	Culham	Act Bk. "B", fo. 77.
Will	1644 July 19	WILLIAM HIGGES	Adderbury	Act Bk. "B", fo. 78.
Will	1650 Mar. 1	JOHN HIGGES, Sen.	South Stoke	..
Will	1663 Dec. 18	DOROTHY HIGGES ( <i>alias</i> EYERS)	Oxford	Act Bk. "B", fo. 124; Bd. Will filed in "E".





*Will	1666 Aug.	21	ANN HIGGES (Spinster)	Shiplake	..
Will	1667 Oct.	22	WILLIAM HIGGES (Yeoman)	South Stoke	..
*Will	1669 Oct.	7	BARTON HIGGES (Gent. & Yeoman)	South Stoke	Act Bk. " B ", fo. 151.
*Will	1679 Feb.	18	JAMES HIGGES	Whitchurch	Ser. II; vol. II, fo. 95.
*Will	1683 April	28	JOHN HIGGES (Senior)	South Stoke	Ser. II, vol. II, fo. 297.
*Will	1683 Feb.	11	ELEANOR HIGGES (Spinster)	South Stoke	Ser. II, vol. II, fo. 337.
Will	1685 Aug.	15	ROBERT HIGGES (Imholder and Taylor)	Wathington	Reg. " A ", fo. 470.
Will	1688 Oct.	2	WILLIAM HIGGS (Yeoman)	Newnham- Murren	Act Bk. " B ", fo. 250.
Will	1706 April	23	THOMAS HIGGS, Sen.	St. Peter's of the East, Oxford	Act Bk. " B ", fo. 305.
Will	1710 May	9	WILLIAM HIGGES	Whitchurch	Act Bk. " B ", fo. 315.
Will	1714 July	17	THOMAS HIGGES	Goring	Ser. II, vol. 16, fo. 16, & Act Bk. " B ", fo. 323.
*Will	1715 June	13	WILLIAM HIGGES (Cordwainer)	Whitchurch	Ser. II, vol. 15, fo. 43.
*Will	1719 Aug.	26	MARY HIGGS (Widow)	Whitchurch	Act Bk. " B ", fo. 337.
*Will	1723 May	13	BARTON HIGGS	South Stoke	Ser. II, vol. 15, fo. 392.
Will	1724 May	7	WILLIAM HIGGS	Binster	Ser. II, vol. 15, fo. 392.
Will	1724 July	13	JAMES HIGGS (Mercer)	Oxford	Reg. " E ", fo. 6.
Will	1726 Jan.	6	RICHARD HIGGS (Yeoman)	Woodcot and South Stoke	Reg. " E ", fo. 114.
*Will	1729 Oct.	3	WILLIAM HIGGS (Yeoman)	South Stoke	Ser. II, vol. 17, fo. 301.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SHROPSHIRE.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF HALFORD.

About eight miles north-west of Ludlow, a town of Shropshire close to the Herefordshire border, lies the village of Halford, associated in the sixteenth century with a branch of the HIGGS family. An early will of one THOMAS HIGGE, or HIGGS, of this place proves him to have been that THOMAS HIGGE mentioned in the printed pedigree of the PLOWDEN family of Shiplake Court, Oxfordshire, and of Plowden's Hall, Salop, given in 'The History of Shiplake', by Emily J. Climensson (1893). This THOMAS HIGGES of Halford, Gentleman, made his will 28 December, 1589, and it was proved at London 6 November, 1591, by ANTHONY CALTON, a notary public and proctor, for RICHARD HIGGS, the executor named in the will, who was the son and heir of his father by ANNE, the fifth daughter of HUMPHREY PLOWDEN (born 1500, and died 1557, being buried at Bishop's Castle, Salop), eighth in descent from ROGER DE PLOWDEN, the Crusader who was present at the Siege of Acre in A.D. 1194. It is of particular interest to note that the mother of ANNE HIGGS (*née* PLOWDEN) was ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN STURRY of Down Rossall, and relict of WILLIAM WOLLASCOTT, the great-great-grandfather of EDWARD WOLLASCOT, Esqre., of Shinfield, and Lord of the Manor of South Stoke, Oxon, through his marriage with ANNE PALMER, the great-grand-daughter of GRIFFITH BARTON, Gentleman, of Barre Place, South Stoke (*vide* Tabulation given in Chapter IV, showing the relationship





between the families of MARTIN, WOLLASCOT, BARTON, HIGGS of South Stoke, DANCASTLE and WINCHCOMBE). It is also worthy of note that the eldest daughter of HUMPHREY PLOWDEN, by ELIZABETH STURRY, his wife, MARGARET by name, married RICHARD SANDFORD, whilst their third daughter, ELIZABETH PLOWDEN, married PETER GREENWAY. The first mention of the PLOWDEN family in connection with Shiplake is in 1573, when EDMUND PLOWDEN, son of HUMPHREY PLOWDEN, by ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN STURRY, and relict of WILLIAM WOLLASCOT, secured the lease of Shiplake Rectory and its lands, late in the occupation of WALTER BARTON, second son of THOMAS à BARTON, of Barton in Weobley, Co. Hereford, by CATHERINE, daughter and co-heir of Sir SIMON MYLBOURNE of Tillington in Burghill (*vide* Pedigree of the BARTON family, Chapter I).

EDMUND PLOWDEN had studied "arts, philosophy and medicine" at Cambridge, and then went to Oxford, and in 1552 was "admitted to the practice of physic and surgery, but subsequently abandoned medicine for law, and became a student of the Middle Temple". He was a Member of Parliament for Wallingford, Berks, in 1553, and for Reading, Berks, in the following year. To any who may be interested in knowing more of the family of THOMAS HIGGS's wife (which is one of the oldest in England, Longville Castle, Salop, belonging to them as early as A.D. 904), *vide* 'Records of the Plowden Family', by B. M. Plowden, privately printed in 1887.

It is evident from the connections given between the Plowdens of Shiplake and their association through their mother with the family of WOLLASCOT, and the relationship existing between the WOLLASCOTS, BARTONS, HIGGSES, of South Stoke, Oxon, and Weobley in Herefordshire, that THOMAS HIGGES of Halford, Shropshire was, with little doubt, of the same family of HIGGES. An abstract of his will dated A.D. 1589, December 28, reads as follows :

**In the Name of God, Amen :** I, THOMAS HIGGES of Halford, Co. Salop, Gentleman, "being long greeved with sicknes". I give to ANNE my wife, in the performance of bonds, and premises made to EDMOND PLAWDEN, the elder, Esquire, deceased, and EDWARD PLAWDEN, gentleman, deceased, brothers of the said ANNE, all my oxen, kyne, sheepe, swyne, etc., plate, jewells, corne, grayne, etc., she to admit RICHARD HIGGS, my son and heire, to aid and assist her, she at her decease to leave JOHN, eldest son of MATHEWE HIGGS my son, £10. To RICHARD, son of JOHN BROOKE of Dynchapp 46s. 8d. The herryot for my dwelling house at Halford to be paid. To BLAUNCH AP POWELL, my servant maid, 40/-s. My wife to keep and maintain the said JOHN HIGGS and RICHARD HIGGS his younger brother, with meat, drinks, clothing, and scholing, and so long as my son RICHARD HIGGS has his fynding with meate, and drinks, and horse meate at Holford. To the said RICHARD HIGGS, my sone and heire, all the rest of my goodes etc. and the said RICHARD to be executor.

ANDREWE BLUNDEN, Esquire and HUMPHREY EYTON, gentleman, nephewes to my said wife ; JOHN BROME, gentleman, my brother-in-law ; and my cozen WILLIAM CLEOBURY to be overseers.

Witnesses : ARTHURE MEADHOM and RICHARD HIGGS.

Proved at London 6 November, 1591, by ANTHONY CALTON, notary public proctor for RICHARD HIGGS, the son and the executor named.

(P.C.C. "Sainberbe", fo. 79)."

It would appear from the pedigree in the 'Heralds' Visitation of Shropshire' in 1623, that THOMAS HIGGS of Halford married twice, as in the pedigree then recorded his wife is given as MARGARET, daughter of MATHEW BROWNE, and this was probably the case as ELIZABETH, daughter of JOHN STURRY of Down Rossall at the time of her marriage to THOMAS HIGGES of Halford was a widow, the relict of WILLIAM WOLLASCOT of Wollascot, Co. Shropshire, and as THOMAS HIGGS named his son "MATHEW", MARGARET the daughter of MATHEW BROWNE was with little doubt the mother of his family. The 'Visitation' pedigree shows THOMAS HIGGS to have been a son of JOHN HIGGS (by his





wife, the daughter of one HIGGINS—or HIBBINS—of Alton), who was the son of one RICHARD HIGGES (no place given).

RICHARD HIGGES, the son and heir of THOMAS HIGGS of Halford, died in 1598, leaving by his wife MABELL, daughter of JOHN BIRRY of Newman Bridge, two sons of the name of THOMAS, and a third son named MATHEWE, a daughter ELINOR, and a daughter URSULA.

The second son of THOMAS HIGGES of Halford, by MARGARET, daughter of MATHEW BROWNE, MATHEWE HIGGS, married ELIZABETH, daughter and co-heir of THOMAS JENKINS, and by her had two sons and a daughter ANNE, JOHN HIGGS the elder and RICHARD HIGGS the younger son. It was to this son of MATHEWE HIGGS, JOHN, that his grandfather THOMAS HIGGS left £10, and directed that their grandmother ANNE HIGGS, the daughter of HUMPHREY PLOWDEN, should have the care and maintenance and schooling of these lads, and therefore it may be that their father MATHEWE HIGGS predeceased his father.

All the aforesaid grandchildren of THOMAS HIGGES, Gentleman of Halford, and MARGARET, his wife, were recorded upon the 'Visitation' of the county in 1623.

A THOMAS HIGGES of Halford, Gentleman, died in or about 1614 (*vide* P.C.C. Will Reg. "Lawe", fo. 54), possibly another son of THOMAS HIGGS by MARGARET, daughter of MATHEW BROWNE, his wife.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF HOPSTON, PARISH OF CHARDLEY.

There can be little doubt that a branch of the HIGGS family at Halford settled at Hopston, in the parish of Chardley, Shropshire, for among the wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in 1679 is found that of THOMAS HIGGS of this place was living there in the seventeenth century. He married and had a family of five sons and three daughters according to his will, which was proved in 1679 (P.C.C. Book "King", fo. 70) as follows :

1. JOHN HIGGS.
2. WILLIAM HIGGS.
3. THOMAS HIGGS.
4. RICHARD HIGGS.
5. BENJAMIN HIGGS.
- (1) ANN, who became the wife of EDWARD RIDLEY.
- (2) KATHERINE.
- (3) ELIZABETH.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF CLAVERLEY, NEAR BRIDGNORTH, HIGLEY AND QUATFORD.

We find one JOHN HIGGS in business as a miller at Claverley, about four miles east of Bridgnorth in this county, and but eight miles from Wolverhampton, in Staffordshire, at this time, who is said to have had a brother RICHARD HIGGS, who matriculated from Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1672/3, and left that College the following year. These two brothers were sons of EDWARD HIGGS, probably of Claverley. JOHN HIGGS, the miller of Claverley, had a son JOHN HIGGS, born at Claverley in 1675. This son JOHN became a prominent man in the Church, and from MS. of Bishop PERCY of Dromore, under date of 1770 (with diaries and sermons by this JOHN HIGGS) we find that he ministered at Quatford, a village four miles from his birthplace, two miles south of Bridgnorth, for sixty-eight years, and raised a numerous family. His eldest son became a clergyman, and purchased the advowson of Higley.





His name was RICHARD, and from the will of the Rev. RICHARD HIGGS, Patron and vicar of Higley, proved in 1756 (P.C.C. "Glazier", fo. 140), he apparently died without issue, and predeceased his father, as he left to him his black gown. His wife's name is given as MARY, and she was left sole executrix of her husband's will. Another son of the Rev. JOHN HIGGS of Claverley and Quatford was in business as a tanner, but which one of his other sons followed this business is uncertain, for among his numerous family he certainly had three other sons besides RICHARD, his eldest, namely :

WILLIAM HIGGS.  
JOHN HIGGS.  
ROGER HIGGS.



THE REV. THOMAS KILPIN HIGGS, M.A., NICKNAMED "THE BISHOP  
OF THE POTTERIES", BORN 29 JANUARY, 1851,  
DIED 28 MAY, 1907.

A daughter's name was ELIZABETH. By his wife, who died in 1718, the Rev. JOHN HIGGS of Quatford is said to have come into some fortune. He was a man "beloved by his parishioners", and was recognized as a "student of Oriental languages". He died at Quatford in 1763 (*vide* "Notes and Queries", 6, Series X, fo. 341).

From Suit in Chancery (Bundle 861/34-1737), HIGGS *v.* CARELESS, it will be seen that the above-mentioned MARY HIGGS, the sole executrix of the will of the Rev. RICHARD HIGGS of Higley, was previously the wife of the Rev. WILLIAM HIGGS, of Birmingham, Co. Warwick (*vide* Pedigree of HIGGS Family of Shropshire and of Staffordshire).





# FORDSHIRE & SALOP.

THOMAS HIGGS = . . . GGS

WILLIAM = . . . . .  
HIGGS  
born: 1656

JOKE COLLEGE OXFORD 1672/3  
BISHOP of CORK

A son  
Both stated to have died  
unmarried.

A daughter  
at  
ALOP  
RD,  
eloved  
ears!  
lan-  
act. 88  
GGS = . . . . . BENJAMIN RICHARD  
HIGGS HIGGS  
dau. of he  
died born: 1686  
unmarried  
She died  
in 1718 leaving  
her husband some  
fortune.  
THOMAS HIGGS  
he married & left issue

WILLIAM  
HIGGS  
died young

JOHN THOMAS HIGGS  
HIGGS of WOLVERHAMPTON  
Ob. S.P. Co. STAFFORD

RD HIGGS = MARY  
of HIGLEY widow  
of the  
"Glasier"  
his gowns  
at QUATFORD  
apparently left no issue  
REV. WILLIAM  
HIGGS of  
BIRMINGHAM

WILLIAM JOHN ROGER ELIZABETH  
HIGGS HIGGS HIGGS  
One of these three was  
in business as a tanner  
All are stated to have married  
and left issue.

MARY HIGGS =  
mar: 3rd JAN. 1778

MARY = . . . . .  
THURGOOD  
of  
LONDON

ELIZABETH = 1st.  
WALKER  
by whom  
she had 2  
sons & 3 dau.  
= 2ndly  
SELMAN of  
TOTTENHAM.

BENJAMIN HIGGS =  
of  
SEEDGELEY LODGE  
Co. STAFFORD

MARTHA WILLIAM ELIZABETH MARY JEMIMA  
HILTON HIGGS  
of HITCHIN Ob. Infans. born 1800. born 1802  
Co. HERTS (born 1807) m. WILLIAM died at  
COLES FULLER WHICKHAM  
died at WHICKHAM  
COTTAGE, KENTISH TOWN  
TOWN. 22 SEPT. 1864. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

BENJAMIN HIGGS =  
of  
WOLVERHAMPTON Co. STAFFORD

JOHN REV. THOMAS =  
HIGGS KILPIN HIGGS  
Ob. S.P. M.A. LONDON & Sold Medal  
born at IPSWICH  
Co. SUFFOLK 29 JAN. 1851, he  
was trained as an Engineer  
which profession he relin-  
quished for the Ministry, &  
became Minister in turn of  
HANLEY CONGREGATIONAL TABER-  
NACLE (which he built & where he  
was known as The Bishop of the  
series") & of GREENACRES CH. OLDHAM, LANC.

MARY dau.  
of the REV.  
W. KINGSLAND  
of BRADFORD  
Co. YORKS  
born 2 FEB 1854  
m: in 1897  
She is descended on  
both sides from bar-  
ons who came out of  
the Established Church  
under the ACT of UNIFORM-  
ITY. She became a  
Widow 25 MAY 1907  
and has since carried  
on a remarkable work  
at OLDHAM among the Poor.  
1. MARTHA born 1834. she mar:  
RICHARD GABRIEL SLATER  
she died in 1894  
2. SARAH, m. Rev. ED. NEWTON  
3. MARY-HILTON  
mar: FRANCIS THOMAS  
WILLIS; she d. 1893  
4. JEMIMA-THURGOOD  
mar: HENRY BOADEN of  
BRISTOL  
5. LIZZIE died a spinster  
6. ANNIE " " "  
7. LOUISA m. Rev. JUSTIN  
FIELD of U.S.A.  
8. JULIA m. . . . ELLIS of  
DAGENHAM, Co. ESSEX

THOMAS = ANNABEL  
WARD WILLIA  
HIGGS  
of  
BIRKENHEAD  
Co. CHESHIRE.

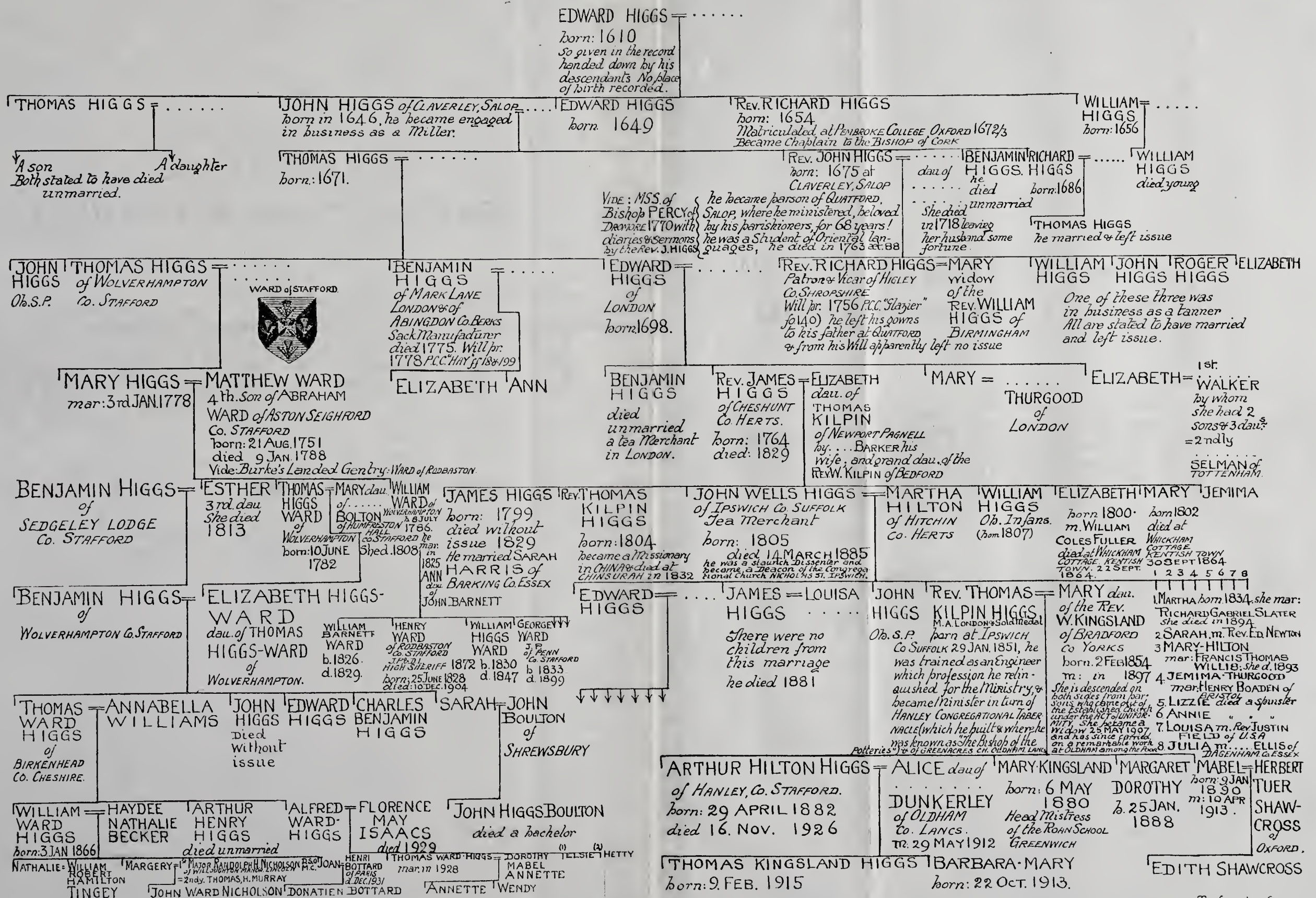
WILLIAM = HAYDEE  
WARD NATHALIE  
HIGGS BECKER  
born: 3 JAN. 1866  
NATHALIE = WILLIAM MARGERY  
ROBERT HAMILTON  
TINGEY JOHN V

ALICE dau. of MARY KINGSLAND MARGARET MABEL = HERBERT  
DUNKERLEY born: 6 MAY DOROTHY born: 9 JAN  
of OLDHAM 1880 1890  
Co. LANCs. Head Mistress of the ROHN SCHOOL m: 10 APR  
m: 29 MAY 1912 GREENWICH 1888 1913.  
BARBARA-MARY  
born: 22 OCT. 1913.  
EDITH SHAWCROSS  
of  
OXFORD.



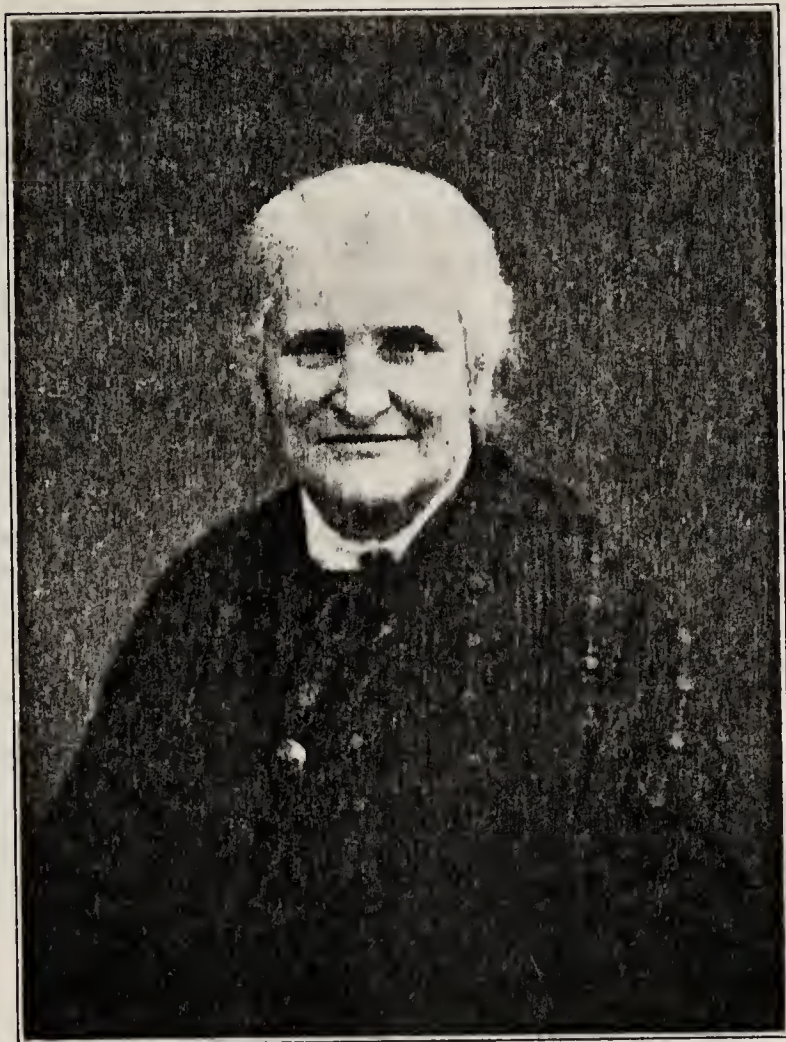


# PEDIGREE of HIGGS of STAFFORDSHIRE & SALOP.

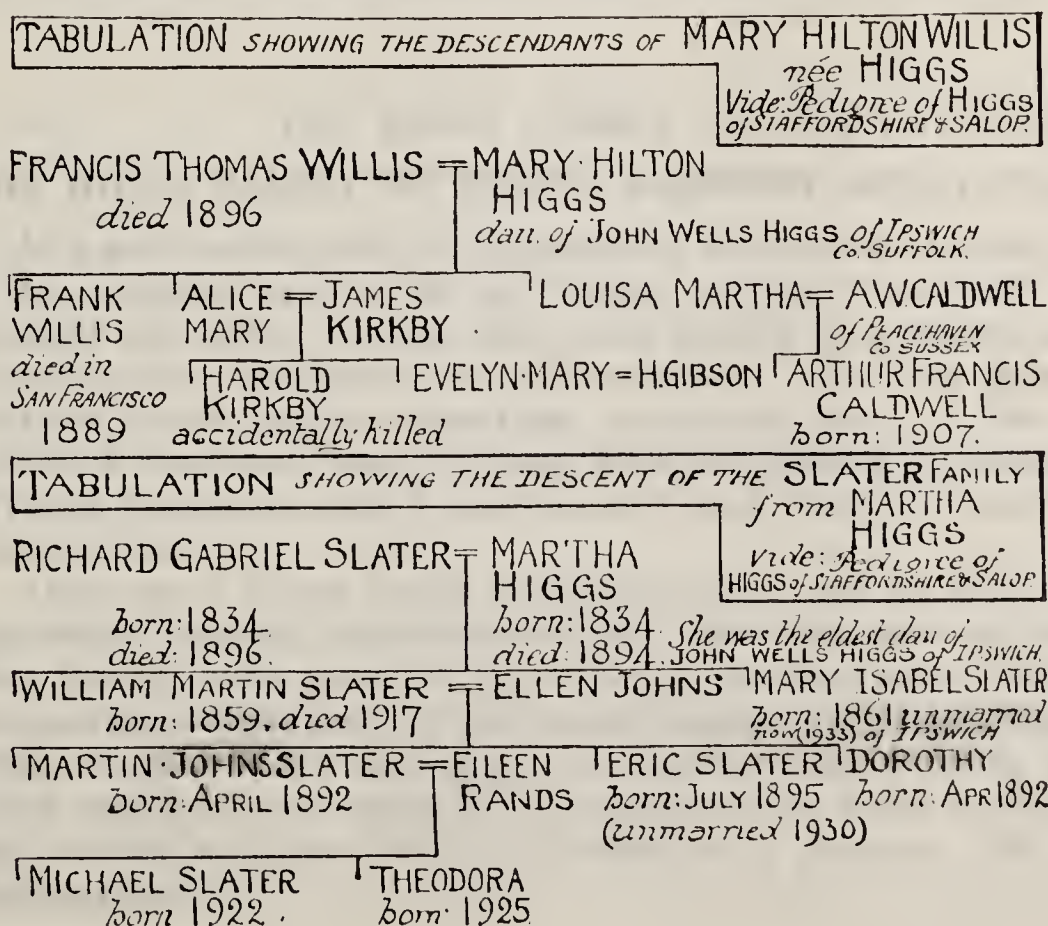








MRS. MARY HIGGS, M.A. (*née* KINGSLAND), WIDOW OF THE LATE REV. THOMAS KILPIN HIGGS, M.A., of Bent House, Oldham, Lancashire, whose religious and philanthropic work is so widely known. Author of 'Glimpses into the Abyss', 'Five Days and Nights as a Tramp', 'Down and Out', and 'An Octave of Song'. She is still, with marvellous energy, superintending the hostels she has founded, and hundreds of lives she has helped will be living monuments to the one they term as "Mother Mary" for many years to come.







## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SOMERSET.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF HIGH HAM.

At the village of High Ham, in the county of Somerset, the rector in 1607 was the Rev. Dr. NICHOLAS HIGGS. During his incumbency in this parish he had the following children born to him and baptized :

1622.	9 Dec.	BRIDGET, daughter of NICHOLAS HIGGS.
1623.	16 Nov.	SUSAN, daughter of NICHOLAS HIGGS.
1629.	7 June.	NICHOLAS, son of NICHOLAS HIGGS.

In 1640, on 10 February, GEORGE HIGGS and FRANCES NORTHOVER or NORTHOUSE were married in this parish.

*Note.*—From ' Phillimore's Marriage Registers ' the following entries are gathered :—

*At High Ham, Co. Somerset :*

1610.	1 Nov.	NICHOLAS HIGGS, sacrae theologiae professor et rector ecclesiae Highamensis, and MARIA POWELL, Wellensis.
1640.	10 Feb.	GEORGIUS HIGGS and FRANC. NORTHOUSE.
1641.	3 May.	JOANNES MERRIOTT and CHRISTIANA HIGGES (sed Glastonia mpti).
1675.	13 Jan.	WILLIAM YOUNG of Aller and MARIA HIGGS of Nether Ham.

*At Huish, Co. Somerset :*

1700.	8 Dec.	JOHN CATTLE of Warne (Wearne) and ELIZABETH HIGGS of High Ham at Huish Episcopi, Somerset.
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*Vide* Chancery Depositions before 1714, 365/14, HIGGS *versus* POWELL.

The Rev. NICHOLAS HIGGS, D.D., besides owning land at Allermore, Co. Somerset, owned land at Alderwayes, Co. Stafford, and land at Reading, Co. Berks.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF COUND, HANBURY AND TATENHILL.

It is quite evident that the HIGGS family had spread well over the County of Stafford in the sixteenth century, from the Calendar of early HIGGS's wills at Lichfield, and there is plenty of evidence to show that these families were related to those in Shropshire, Worcestershire, Derbyshire and Gloucestershire, and every ground for believing that all these HIGGS families came from a common stock, or like origin. Some of the earliest in this county were at Yoxall, in close proximity to Croxall, in Derbyshire, where a HIGGS family was settled, and also at Cound, Hanbury, Tatenhill and other places in Staffordshire.

There was a HIGGS family at Wolverhampton, not far from the Shropshire border, and also at Sedgeley (but three miles from Wolverhampton, and about the same distance from Dudley, in the county of Worcester), in the early part of the eighteenth century, if not previous to that time. Of the former family was THOMAS HIGGS of Wolverhampton, whose daughter MARY married into the old Staffordshire family of WARD of Stone and Aston Seighford, now represented by the family of WARD of Rodbaston, Staffordshire. She married MATTHEW WARD of Stafford on 3 January, 1778, and by him had the following family :





1. THOMAS HIGGS WARD of Wolverhampton, born 10 June, 1782 ; married first MARY, daughter of ——— BOLTON of Hunfreston Hall, Stafford ; second, ELIZ. SHERWIN.
2. WILLIAM WARD of Wolverhampton, born 8 July, 1786, and by his wife ANN, daughter of JOHN BARNETT, of Comberton, Co. Worcester, had a number of children, of whom—
  1. WILLIAM BARNETT WARD died in infancy.
  2. HENRY WARD, J.P. and D.L., High Sheriff in 1872, was born 25 June, 1828, and settled at Rodbaston.
  3. WILLIAM HIGGS WARD, born 10 August, 1830 ; ob. 19 September, 1847.
  4. GEORGE WARD of Bearnett House, Penn, Co. Stafford, J.P.
- (1) SARAH (WARD).
- (2) MARY (WARD).
- (3) ESTHER, who married BENJAMIN HIGGS of Sedgeley Lodge, Sedgeley, who in all probability was her cousin. ESTHER HIGGS died in 1813, leaving a son :
  1. BENJAMIN HIGGS of Sedgeley, who again married into the family of WARD, and by his wife ELIZABETH had four sons and one daughter :
    1. THOMAS WARD HIGGS, who married ANNABELLA WILLIAMS, and by her had three sons :
      1. WILLIAM WARD HIGGS.
      2. ARTHUR HARRY HIGGS.
      3. ALFRED WARD HIGGS.
    2. JOHN HIGGS.
    3. EDWARD HIGGS.
    4. CHARLES BENJAMIN HIGGS.
  - (1) SARAH.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF WOLVERHAMPTON AND SEDGELEY.

The WARD family, who have so intermarried with the HIGGS family of Wolverhampton and of Sedgeley, in the county of Stafford, are descended from ABRAHAM WARD of Stone in Staffordshire, whose son JOHN WARD (baptized 18 November, 1687) was father of ABRAHAM WARD of Aston Seighford, in the same county (baptized 28 August, 1712). This ABRAHAM WARD married MARY, the daughter of WILLIAM PLANT of Darlaston, near Stone, in 1736, and by her had seven sons and two daughters, namely :

1. ABRAHAM, of Stafford, born 1739 ; married CATHERINE LOVATT of Stafford, and died 1817.
2. JOHN WARD of Doddington, Co. Cheshire, born 1742 ; died 1795.
3. WILLIAM WARD of Oxford, born 1744 ; died 1815.
4. STEPHEN WARD, born 1747 ; died 1750.
5. THOMAS WARD of Oxford, born 1749 ; died *s.p.* 1831.
6. MATTHEW WARD, born 21 August, 1751 ; married MARY, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS of Wolverhampton, 3 January, 1778.
7. JOSEPH WARD, born 1754 ; died 1787, leaving issue.
- (1) ANN, born 1737. She married WILLIAM PEMBERTON of Timstall, Co. Salop, and died 1808 leaving issue.
- (2) ESTHER, born 1758 ; died 1783.

The Arms borne by this family are :

Per saltire az. and sa. a cross pattée between four pheons, two in pale and two in fess, Or.

Crest : In front of a cubit arm, ppr., grasping an arrow in bend sinister Or, three crosses pattee, also gold.

Motto : "Spes mea in Deo".

*Vide* Tabulated Pedigree Higgs Family of Staffordshire and of Salop.





## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF (?) QUARRY BANK.

There was a family of HIGGSES in Staffordshire, probably related to those of the name in Wolverhampton, who are stated to have resided at a place called "Quarry Bank", and to have been engaged in mining engineering.

THOMAS HIGGS, mining engineer of (?) "Quarry Bank"—or possibly Crackley Bank—married and had a son—

THOMAS HIGGS, who followed his father's profession as a mining engineer in the same place. He is said to have had a sister SARAH, who became the wife of one named HOMER. This THOMAS HIGGS married and left a son—

SOLOMON HIGGS, who married a widow named MARY BROADHURST (born March, 1796), and by her had the following family :

1. JOHN LAY HIGGS, born 22 February, 1834.
2. THOMAS FREDERIC HIGGS, M.D., born 13 May, 1835. He married 2 June, 1859, HELENA GRIFFIN WALKER (who was born 23 June, 1835, and died 28 March, 1900). He moved to Dudley in the county of Worcester and became a Justice of the Peace (*vide* HIGGS Family of Worcester).
3. EDWARD LAY HIGGS, born 8 March, 1837.

## A CALENDAR OF WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS AT LICHFIELD, 1516-1652.

- |       |                              |            |
|-------|------------------------------|------------|
| 1604. | ARTHUR HIGGS.                | 145 Adm.   |
| 1638. | ARTHUR HIGGS.                | Will.      |
| 1638. | ALICE HIGGS.                 | Will.      |
| 1614. | ELEANOR HIGGS.               | 106 Will.  |
| 1617. | GEORGE HIGGES.               | 239 Will.  |
| 1617. | GEORGE HIGGES.               | 244 Will.  |
| 1613. | HENRY HIGGES.                | 15 Will.   |
| 1535. | JOHN HYGGS of Croxall.       | 7b Will.   |
| 1544. | JOHN HIGGES of Cound.        | 24 Will.   |
| 1551. | JOHN HYGGS of Hanbury.       | 18 Will.   |
| 1583. | JOHN HIGGES.                 | 188 Will.  |
| 1597. | JOHN HIGGES.                 | 205 Will.  |
| 1599. | JOHN HIGGES.                 | 2 Adm.     |
| 1615. | JOHN HIGGS.                  | 141 Adm.   |
| 1625. | JOHN HIGGS.                  | 6 Will.    |
| 1635. | JOHN HIGGS.                  | 10 Will.   |
| 1636. | MARGARET HIGGLES.            | Will.      |
| 1557. | NICHOLAS HIGGES of Croxall.  | 109 Will.  |
| 1558. | RICHARD HIGGS of Walton.     | 117b Will. |
| 1628. | RICHARD HIGGES of Tatenhill. | Will.      |
| 1647. | ROBERT HEGG of Barrow.       | Adm.       |
| 1548. | THOMAS HYGGS of Yoxall.      | 75b Will.  |
| 1632. | THOMAS HIGGS.                | Will.      |
| 1596. | WILLIAM HIGGES.              | 155 Adm.   |
| 1602. | WILLIAM HIGGES.              | 86 Will.   |
| 1626. | WILLIAM HIGGS.               | 27 Will.   |





## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SUFFOLK.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF FORDLEY.

On 25 May, 1594, ROBERT and JOHN ELMHAM of Middleton, in the county of Suffolk, granted a deed of feoffment to RICHARD HYGGES respecting an estate in Fordley. Fordley was a part of the Manor of Middleton (or Middleton-cum-Fordley, as it is described in other deeds of this period). How long this hereditary estate was in the family of this RICHARD HYGGES or from what part he came has not come to light. Suffolk is not a county in which many of the name of HIGGS are found to any extent. In connection with Middleton Austens manor the admission of this RICHARD HIGGES on 12 September, 1595, is recorded, so that he also held land in connection with this adjacent manor. The original deed of feoffment is offered for sale by Mr. H. R. Moulton, 5, Park Hill, Richmond, Surrey, among his remarkable collection of ancient deeds for 21s. (Catalogue Ref. C.504-1930); likewise the record of the Admission of this RICHARD HIGGES in connection with Middleton Austens manor (C.533—price with others in the bundle of various admissions, £2 10s.).

The Middleton Parish Registers commence in 1653. These have not been examined for HIGGS entries.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SUDBURY, AND OF SOUTH PENDER ISLAND, B.C.

(*Vide* Higgs Family of Upton St. Leonards, Co. Gloucester.)

It was in the early part of the nineteenth century that SAMUEL HIGGS, the fifth son of WILLIAM HIGGS of Upton St. Leonards, in the County of Gloucester, by ESTHER STANGER, his wife, took up his abode at Sudbury, in the county of Suffolk, and later in life settled at Comard, in the same county, purchasing his residence there called "The Moat". He was a Justice of the Peace for Suffolk. He married MARIA HIBBLE, the daughter of a wealthy bunting manufacturer of Sudbury, by whom he had four sons and three daughters, as follow :

1. THOMAS HIGGS, born in 1842. He married AMELIA SPALDING (of whom later).
2. WILLIAM HIGGS, born 1846, and died in 1848.
3. HORACE HIGGS, born 1848 and died in 1855.
4. ARTHUR HIBBLE HIGGS, M.A., born 1850, of Balliol College, Oxford, from which College he matriculated 21 October, 1869, aged 19. He died in 1915 (15 July).
- (1) MARIA HIBBLE, born 1844. She married JOHN HOWARD SPALDING, and died in 1881, leaving by him eight children.
- (2) MARGARET, living in 1930.
- (3) ELIZABETH, born 1855. She died in 1908.

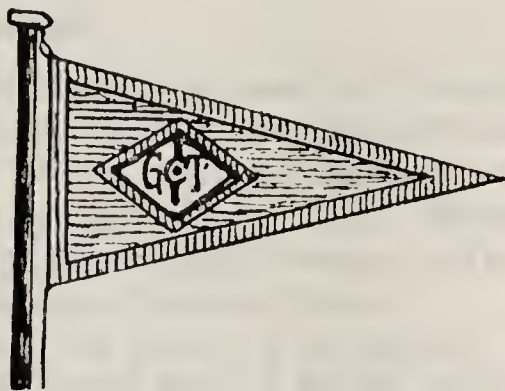
THOMAS HIGGS, the eldest son (born in 1842), had, by his wife AMELIA SPALDING, one son and two daughters :

1. LEWIS LEONARD SPALDING HIGGS, born in 1867. He married CAROLINE EMMA WELLS BATSFORD of St. Mary Bourne, Andover, Co. Hants, and settled at South Pender Island in British Columbia (*vide* Chapter X and his meeting with WILLIAM MILLER HIGGS in Victoria, B.C., about 1911). It was in 1886 that LEWIS LEONARD SPALDING HIGGS settled in British Columbia, and in 1897 his two sisters likewise settled in this Province. By CAROLINE EMMA WELLS BATSFORD, his wife, he had issue two sons and one daughter :
  1. THOMAS LEONARD HIGGS of All Bay, Sidney, Vancouver Island. He married KATULEEN WESTWOOD, by whom he has a son :
    1. THOMAS LEONARD MARTIN HIGGS, born 26 September, 1930.





2. WILLIAM YORK HIGGS (nicknamed "Bo'sun"), who married NONA DAWN FERNAU, by whom he has a son :
  1. WILLIAM LEONARD CONSTANT HIGGS.
- (1) AMELIA WINIFRED was the only daughter of LEWIS LEONARD SPALDING HIGGS. She married ANDREW GEORGESON (of Scotch descent), by whom she has a family of three sons and five daughters :
  1. DARREL GEORGESON.
  2. NORMAN GEORGESON.
  3. ROBERT GEORGESON.
  - (1) EILEEN.
  - (2) KATHLEEN.
  - (3) DOROTHY.
  - (4) VIOLET.
  - (5) PHILLIS.
- (1) The elder daughter of THOMAS HIGGS and AMELIA SPALDING his wife, MABEL, who settled in British Columbia in 1897, became the wife of Mr. MARTIN GRAINGER of Victoria, who was in the Forestry Department of the Government of British Columbia. (Now living in Vancouver, 1930.)
- (2) The younger daughter of THOMAS HIGGS and AMELIA SPALDING, his wife, WINIFRED, became the wife of Mr. RALPH GREY. She likewise lives in Vancouver, B.C.



PENNANT OF THE  
GULF ISLANDS TRANSPORTATION COMPANY LTD.  
(HIGGS BROS.).

As related in Chapter X, LEWIS LEONARD SPALDING HIGGS served with the Canadian Forestry Corps during the World War, holding the rank of Captain. He was well versed in timber, and a remarkably well-read man. He died on 27 May, 1922. Both of his sons are engaged in B.C. Coast freighting, and the two brothers, Capt. THOMAS LEONARD and Capt. WILLIAM YORK HIGGS, have recently gone into partnership in this business under the name of the "Gulf Islands Transportation Co. Ltd.", and are much respected in shipping circles upon the Pacific Coast.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF SURREY.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF WANDSWORTH.

##### WANDSWORTH PARISH CHURCH REGISTERS.

##### *Marriages :*

- |       |          |  |
|-------|----------|--|
| 1727. | 2 April. | WILLIAM HIGGS and ELIZABETH STEPHENS.              |
| 1760. | 31 Aug.  | GEORGE LONG, bachelor, and HANNAH HIGGS, spinster. |

##### *Baptisms :*

- |       |         |                             |
|-------|---------|-----------------------------|
| 1690. | 16 Nov. | LEWIS, son of JOSHUA HIGGS. |
| 1692. | 18 Dec. | JOHN, son of JOHN HIGGS.    |





1695.	11 Feb.	JANE, daughter of JOHN HIGGS.
1698.	21 May.	MARY, daughter of JOHN HIGGS.
1701.	19 Dec.	CHRISTIAN, son of JOHN HIGGS.
1723.	13 Nov.	JAMES, son of WILLIAM and CATHERINE HIGGS.
1725.	7 Nov.	WILLIAM, son of ROBERT HIGGS.
1728.	2 Mar.	ELIZABETH, daughter of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1731.	23 May.	WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1733.	19 Dec.	MARY, daughter of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1738.	9 July.	HANNAH, daughter of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS.
1749.	8 Oct.	CATHERINE, daughter of WILLIAM and ANN HIGGS.

*Burials :*

1731.	24 Feb.	ELIZABETH, infant daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.
1734.	19 June.	ROBERT HIGGS.
1739.	28 June.	HANNAH, infant daughter of WILLIAM HIGGS.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF WORCESTERSHIRE.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF WORCESTER.

Branches of the HIGGS family were settled in the county of Worcester in the sixteenth century. This may well be expected, as the county is bounded on the south by Gloucestershire, on the west by Herefordshire, on the north by Staffordshire, on the east by Warwickshire, and on the north-west by Shropshire. ROGER HIGGS was living in the parish of Hartleborne towards the end of the sixteenth century, and by his will, proved in 1601 (P.C.C. "Woodhall", fo. 32), left a son WILLIAM HIGGS.

On 3 July, 1681, EDWARD HIGGS, of the parish of St. Alban's, Worcester, married MARY BRYAN of that parish (she was buried there 3 March, 1723). EDWARD HIGGS, dying in 1712 and buried at St. Alban's, Worcester, 14 December in that year, left by MARY, his wife, the following family—two sons and five daughters :

1. EDWARD HIGGS, baptized at St. Alban's, Worcester, 20 July, 1690. He married 20 June, 1714, ELIZABETH BALLARD of St. Martin's Parish, and dying in 1734 he was buried on the 28th day of that year at St. Alban's, leaving by ELIZABETH his wife one son and three daughters :
  1. JOHN HIGGS, baptized at St. Alban's Parish Church 16 November, 1725.
  - (1) ELIZABETH, baptized at St. Alban's 2 October, 1715 ; buried there 11 November, 1725.
  - (2) MARY, baptized at St. Alban's 15 September, 1717.
  - (3) ANN, baptized at St. Alban's 3 September, 1732 ; buried there (?) 1732.
2. JOHN HIGGS, baptized at St. Alban's Parish Church 17 June, 1697 ; buried at St. Alban's 6 August, 1707.
  - (1) MARY, baptized at St. Alban's 9 April, 1682 ; buried there 16 June, 1702.
  - (2) ABYGEALL, baptized at St. Alban's 26 April, 1684 ; buried there 25 March, 1729.
  - (3) ELIZABETH, baptized at St. Alban's 19 April, 1686 ; buried there 2 October, 1689.
  - (4) SARAH, baptized at St. Alban's 10 March, 1687. She married JOHN WILLIAMS 1 January, 1713.
  - (5) ELIZABETH, baptized at St. Alban's 4 April, 1693 ; buried 15 February, 1694.

No research has been made for the descendants of this family, but the following record of Worcester HIGGSSES may prove useful :

St. Alban's, Worcester :

1742. 24 Oct. EDWARD HIGGS married CASSIA TAYLOR.





The will of THOMAS HIGGS of Worcester (P.C.C. April, 1655, "Aylett", 343) may throw light upon the ancestry of EDWARD HIGGS of St. Alban's parish.

From 'Phillimore's Parish Registers':—HIGGES of Inckborrow:

JOHN HIGGES of Inckborrow married to ANNE HOLDER of Bradley, Worcestershire, 30 April, 1630.

From the Calendar of early Worcestershire Wills and Marriage Bonds it is evident that in the sixteenth century families of HIGGES were settled in Bidford, Bromsgrove, Cropthorne, Grafton Flyford, Grimley, Hartlebury, Holte, Nawnton, North Lyttelton, Overbury, St. Peter's parish, Worcester, and other places in this county.

This Calendar from 1451-1600 is given that it may be of assistance to those HIGGS families whose ancestry is known to have been in this county.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF DUDLEY.

In the nineteenth century THOMAS FREDERIC HIGGS, Esq., M.D., was a Justice of the Peace for the county borough of Dudley in Worcestershire. He was born 13 May, 1835, and was the second son of SOLOMON HIGGS of Quarry Bank (? Crackley Bank), Staffordshire, by MARY BROADHURST (widow), *née* —LAY?—, his wife. Dr. THOMAS FREDERIC HIGGS, J.P., married 2 June, 1859, HELEN GRIFFIN WALKER (born 23 June, 1835; died 28 March, 1900), by whom he had issue three sons and four daughters:

1. JOSEPH WALKER HIGGS-WALKER.
2. WILLIAM HENRY HIGGS-WALKER.
3. THOMAS FREDERICK HIGGS.
- (1) MARY LUCRETIA WALKER HIGGS.
- (2) ALICE MAUD WALKER, who married WALTER BLOX.
- (3) LIZZIE WALKER, who married WILLIAM NAYLER.
- (4) MINNIE WALKER-HIGGS.

(*Vide* Chart Pedigree HIGGS Family of Dudley, Co. Worcester p. 373A.)

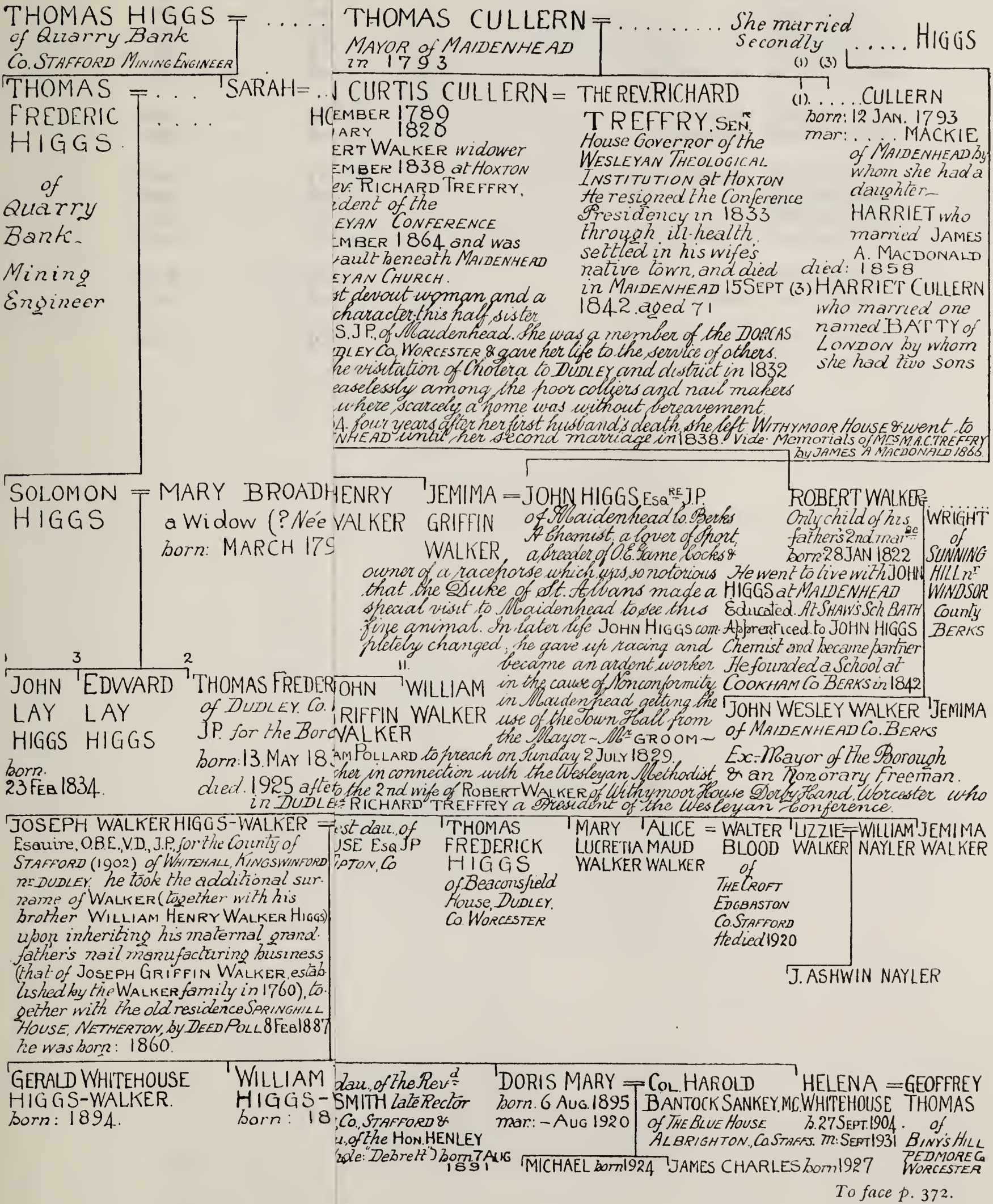
### A CALENDAR OF WILLS AT WORCESTER AND MARRIAGE BONDS 1451-1600.

1532.	20 Dec.	JOHN HYGGE of North Lyttelton .. ..	Will.
1536.	—	JOHN HYGGS of Overbury .. ..	Will.
1547.	18 June.	JOHN HYGGE of St. Peter's, Worcester ..	Adm.
1549.	24 Aug.	KATHERINE HYGGES, spinster of Grymley ..	Adm.
1559.	—	THOMAS HIGGS of Bromsgrove .. ..	Will and Inv.
1561.	—	JAMYS CORNEWALL <i>alias</i> HYGGS of Rypple ..	Will and Inv.
1562.	10 July.	THOMAS HIGGES .. ..	Will.
1566.	—	MARGERIE HYGGES of Nawnton .. ..	Will and Inv.
1566.	—	HUMFREY HYGGES .. ..	Will and Inv.
1569.	—	GREGORY HIGGS of Holte .. ..	Will and Inv.
1575.	—	THOMAS HIGGES of Holte and JULIAN MORLEY of Holte	Marriage Bond.
1582.	—	JOHN MERRELL of Grafton Flyford and DOROTHIE HIGGS of that place	Marriage Bond.
1586.	—	EDWARD HIGGS, yeoman of Ambresly or Ombersley	Will and Inv.
1586.	—	EDWARD AMFLIT, tanner, of Ombersley and ANNE HIGGS of that place	Marriage Bond.
1586.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Ombersley and ANNE BAKER of that place	Marriage Bond.
1589.	—	JOHN HIGGS, husbandman, of Holte .. ..	Inventory.
1590.	—	THOMAS HIGGS of Grafton Fleford .. ..	Inventory.
1591.	—	RICHARD GODFREY and JOAN HIGGS of Cropthorne	Marriage Bond.





PEDIGREE WORCESTER and HIGGS-WALKER

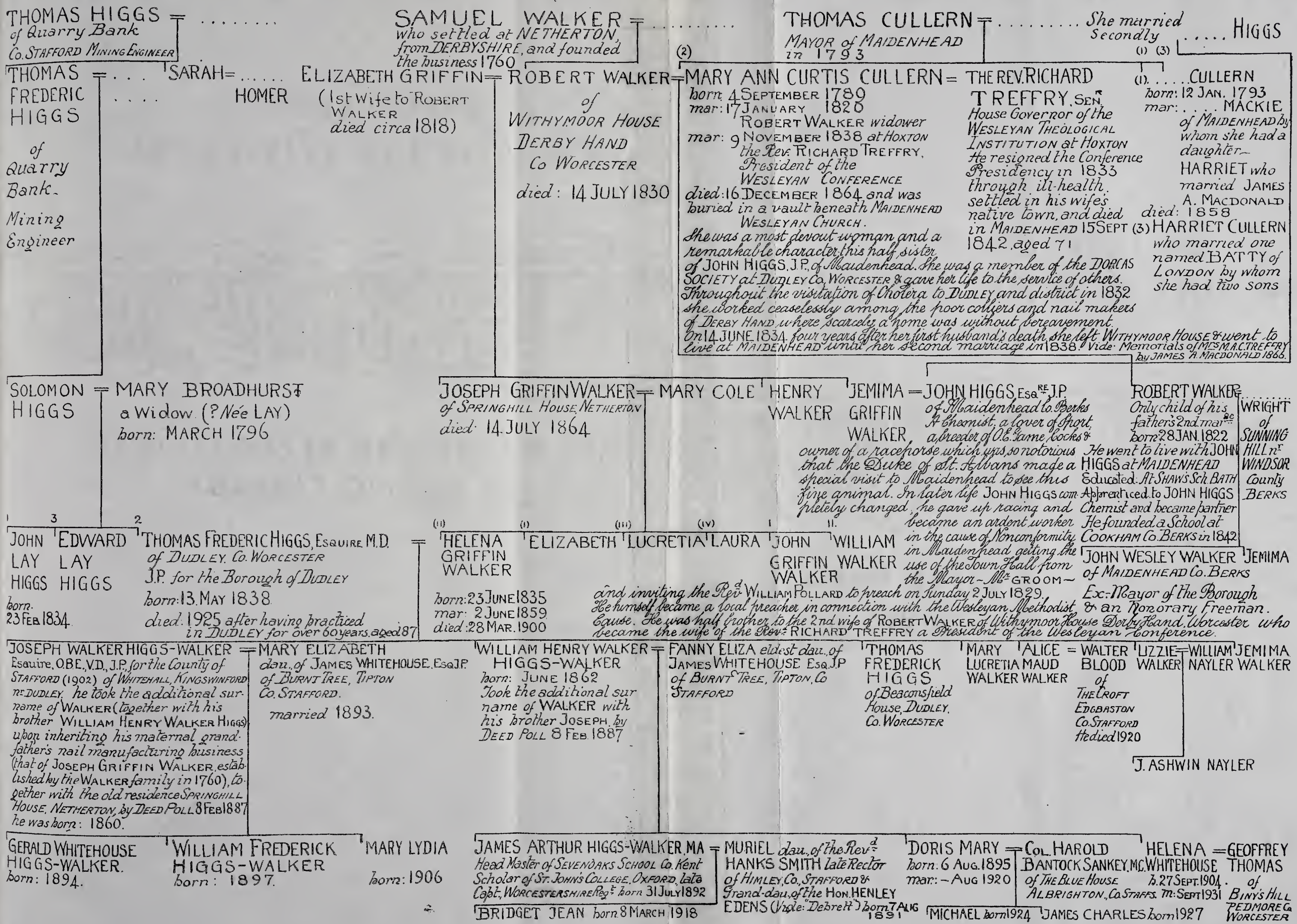








PEDIGREE of HIGGS of DUDLEY co. WORCESTER and HIGGS-WALKER







1591.	—	JULIAN HIGGS of Charleton .. .. .	Adm.
1591.	—	JULIA HIGGS, widow, of Cropthorne .. ..	Inventory.
1593.	—	HENRY HIGGES, husbandman, of Bidford ..	Will and Inv.
1593.	—	MARGARET HIGGES, widow, of Beteley Holt ..	Will and Inv.
1595.	—	HUMPHRY BALLARD and ELIZABETH HIGGS of Ambersley	Marriage Bond.
1595.	—	HENRY PENNE and ELIZABETH HIGGS of Bromsgrove	Marriage Bond.
1596.	—	JAMES HIGGES of Milnar Hartlebury and MARGARET BALLARD of Hartlebury	Marriage Bond.
1597.	—	THOMAS HIGGS, yeoman, of St. Lawrence Evesham	Will and Inv.
1597.	—	THOMAS HIGGS, labourer, of Hanly Castle ..	Will and Inv.
1597.	—	THOMAS HYGGES, labourer, of Hanly Castle ..	Will and Adm.
1597.	—	THOMAS ROSE, yeoman, and JOANE HIGGS, both of Tredington	Marriage Bond.
1598.	—	HUFRAYE (HUMPIREY) HIGGES of Holt .. ..	Will and Inv.
1600.	—	ANNIS HICKS (HIGGS), widow, of St. Lawrence Evesham	Will and Inv.
1600.	—	JOHN HIGGS of Ombersley .. .. .	Adm. and Inv.





## CHAPTER XIX

## Early References to the Higgs Family in Chancery Proceedings

						Ref.
*1486.	HIGGIS, JOHN, Gloucester ..	..	..	..	..	79/43.
*1486-1515.	HYGGES, THOMAS, Gloucester ..	..	..	..	..	187/70.
*1486-1515.	HYGGES, THOMAS, Gloucester ..	..	..	..	..	196/58.
1500-1501.	HIGGS, JOHANNE, Hertford ..	..	..	..	..	241/75.
1504-1515.	HYGGES, STEPHEN (Clk.), Stafford ..	..	..	..	..	367/29.
1529-1532.	HYGYS, AGNES, Somerset ..	..	..	..	..	690/37.
1529-1532.	HYGGYS, JOHANNE, Norfolk ..	..	..	..	..	692/19.
1533-1538.	HYGGES, JOHN, Worcester ..	..	..	..	..	769/11.
	HYGGES, JOAN, Worcester ..	..	..	..	..	769/11.
	HYGGES, THOMAS, Worcester ..	..	..	..	..	769/11.
	HYGGES, JOAN, Worcester ..	..	..	..	..	769/11.

## CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS: SERIES II.

1558-1579.	HIGGES, WILLIAM, <i>v.</i> JOHN and JOHN MADGE, <i>re</i> Money matters. Devonshire	80/97.
1558-1579.	HIGGES, THOMAS, <i>v.</i> HENRY COWPER, <i>re</i> Manor of Kings Bromley in Staffordshire	88/16.
1558-1579.	HIGGES, THOMAS, <i>v.</i> GILBERT DAVID and another. Buttington, Co. Montgomery	89/30.
1558-1579.	HIGGES, THOMAS, <i>v.</i> CHARLES and JOHN BALDWIN. Hopesay, Shropshire	97/41.
1587-1591.	HIGGES, HENRY, <i>v.</i> ROBERT CALTON and another. Goring Manor, Oxon	225/65.
*1596-1616.	HIGGES, WILLIAM, <i>et al. ats.</i> FRANCIS BACON <i>re</i> Cheltenham Rectory, Gloucester	257/13.
*1596-1616.	HIGGES, WILLIAM, Gloucester (Defendant) .. ..	281/32.
*1617.	HIGGS, Dr. NICHOLAS, <i>v.</i> SAMUEL POWELL .. ..	365/14.
1621-1625.	HIGGE, NICHOLAS, Devon .. ..	352/53.
*1621-1625.	HIGGES, THOMAS, and others, <i>v.</i> TOBY PACKER, <i>re</i> Cheltenham Rectory and Charlton Kings Chapel, Gloucester	372/14.
*1621-1625.	HIGGES, THOMAS, and <i>als.</i> <i>v.</i> ANTHONY PARTRIDGE and ALICE his wife <i>re</i> Cheltenham Rectory and Charlton Chapel, Gloucestershire	374/9.
*1621-1625.	HIGGES, JOHN, <i>v.</i> HENRY and RALPH SMITH, <i>re</i> Money matters. Berkshire	383/80.
*1626-1639.	HIGGS, RICHARD, <i>v.</i> JOHN HIGGS, <i>re</i> Money matters. Berkshire	405/10.
*1634.	ENGLISH <i>v.</i> HIGGS and ATKINS .. ..	350/13.

## CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS: JAMES I.

1603-1625.	HIGGES, JOHN .. ..	D. 1/35.
	HIGGS, RICHARD, Radnor .. ..	E. 1/5.
	HIGGS, WILLIAM, Stafford .. ..	E. 5/51.
	HIGGS, THOMAS, Berkshire .. ..	H. 5/4.
	HIGGS, WM., <i>v.</i> RICHARD, Berks .. ..	H. 9/49.
	HIGGES, JOHN, Gloucester .. ..	H. 20/8.





HIGGS, GEORGE and RICHARD .. .. .	H. 20/45.
HIGGS, Dr. NICHOLAS .. .. .	H. 20/49.
HIGGS, MARY and KATHERINE, <i>v.</i> RICHARD of Lincoln ..	H. 24/9.
HIGGS, JOHN, Berkshire .. .. .	H. 27/56.
*HIGGE, NICHOLAS, ELIZABETH and JOHN .. .. .	H. 30/29.

## CHANCERY BILLS AND ANSWERS: CHARLES I.

1631.	BOOTH <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	B. 91/4.
	BALCHE <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	B. 141/24.
	HIGGES, WILLIAM, Stafford .. .. .	C. 1/39.
	*DANCASTLE <i>v.</i> HIGGS. (ROBERT DANCASTLE to answer of JOHN HIGGS)	D. 64/23.
	ENGLISH <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	E. 33/42.
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> JENYNGS .. .. .	H. 2/56.
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	H. 21/8.
	HIGGES <i>v.</i> HIGGES .. .. .	H. 21/34.
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> CARTWRIGHT .. .. .	H. 23/16.
	HIGGES <i>v.</i> HIGGES .. .. .	H. 27/49.
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> TURBERVILLE .. .. .	H. 33/46.
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> HIGGES .. .. .	H. 52/51.
	HIGGES <i>v.</i> ENGLISH .. .. .	H. 62/19.
	*HIGGS <i>v.</i> CARTER. (JOHN HIGGS of London, Gent. <i>v.</i> RICHARD CARTER of Silchester, <i>re</i> Land at Bassildon, Berks)	H. 66/10.
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	"Fragmenta."
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> CHENEY .. .. .	H. 80/5.
		H. 95/11.
	HIGGES <i>v.</i> JANSON .. .. .	H. 93/37.
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> FLUDD .. .. .	H. 97/37.
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	H. 118/29.
	HIGGS <i>v.</i> POWELL .. .. .	H. 119/124.
	LYDALL, Knt., <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	L. 12/31.
	MAY <i>v.</i> HIGGES .. .. .	M. 15/32.
	NICHOLS <i>v.</i> HIGGES .. .. .	N. 10/50.
	PORT <i>v.</i> HIGGES .. .. .	P. 62/51.
	RICHARDS <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	R. 20/30.
	SWAN <i>v.</i> HIGGES .. .. .	S. 95/48.
	SMYTH <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	S. 116/11.
	SHEERLOCK <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	S. 131/137.
	WHISTLER, M.D., <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	W. 26/12.
	WHARTON <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	W. 88/32.

## CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS BEFORE 1714: BRIDGES DIVISION.

1653.	JOHN WALLIS <i>v.</i> DOROTHY HIGGS, widow, WILLIAM and WILLIAM HIGGS, <i>re</i> Money matters, Oxfordshire	16/139.
*1654.	BARTON HIGGS <i>v.</i> KATHERINE WHARTON and others, <i>re</i> Money matters, Oxfordshire	383/78.
	Ditto, ditto	
*1656.	RICHARD HIGGES <i>v.</i> ANNE WHISTLER, widow, and another. Goring, Oxfordshire	29/120.
1661.	THOMAS HIGGS <i>v.</i> JOHN KINGE and others, <i>re</i> Parcel of the Manor of Woodhay in Hampshire	38/5.
1661.	ROBERT MILLER, and MARY his wife, <i>v.</i> ANNE HIGGS and other. St. Lawrence Waltham, Berks	36/50.
*1667.	THOMAS SALUSBURY <i>v.</i> ROGER HIGGS, <i>re</i> Money matters. Answer	431/51.
1668.	NICHOLAS P—— and KATHERINE his wife <i>v.</i> EDMUND HIGGS, Money matters. Answer (mutilated)	430/56.





1669.	THOMAS HIGGES <i>v.</i> ROWLAND HERRIDGE, <i>re</i> Money matters.	499/23.
	Middlesex	
*1674.	ROGER HIGGS and others <i>v.</i> JOHN MORRIS, <i>re</i> Messuage, etc., called "York House". Answers, etc.	499/32.
1680.	ANTHONY MASON and others <i>v.</i> JOHN HIGGS and SARAH his wife <i>et al.</i> Stepney, Middlesex, <i>re</i> Personal estate of JOHN SIMONS	522/63.
1680.	JOHN HIGGS and SARAH his wife <i>v.</i> JANE SYMONDS and others, <i>re</i> Personal estate of JOHN EVANS, Middlesex	499/31.
*1681.	JOHN IREMONGER <i>v.</i> JOHN HIGGS, <i>re</i> Money matters. Middlesex	504/36.
1691.	NICHOLAS HIGGS <i>v.</i> FRANCIS SMITH (Money matters, Middlesex)	97/64.
*1692.	JAMES WARNER, ANNE his wife and others <i>v.</i> GRIFFITH HIGGS, Shiplake, Oxon, <i>re</i> Personal estate of WALTER JEMMETT	299/71.
*1695.	Parishioners of South Stoke : HIGGS <i>v.</i> BARTON DAY .. ..	6/27.
*1697.	MARY HIGGS, widow, and JOHN HIGGS <i>v.</i> DAVID THOMAS and others, <i>re</i> Bequest of Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS for Grammar School in South Stoke, Oxon	165/28.
*1698.	WILLIAM HIGGS <i>v.</i> JAMES HIGGS and others, <i>re</i> Basildon Manor, Berkshire	133/29.
1700.	ANTHONY MIDDLETON and ALICE his wife and another <i>v.</i> JOHN HIGGS, Stretton-on-Dunsinore, Personal estate ANNE HIGGS	620/8.

## CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS BEFORE 1714: MITFORD DIVISION.

*1693.	LOCK <i>v.</i> JEMOTT, <i>re</i> Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS's estate .. ..	Mitford 437/46.
1690.	MIDDLETON <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	Collins 302

## CHANCERY DEPOSITIONS BEFORE 1714: BUNDLES 158-1051.

COMBER <i>v.</i> HEIGHES	.. .. .	339/10.
BADGER <i>v.</i> HIGG .. .. .	.. .. .	594/38.
HIGGS <i>v.</i> BELL .. .. .	.. .. .	650/11.
HIGGS <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	.. .. .	652/41.
HUSSEY <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	.. .. .	655/69.
HIGGS <i>v.</i> HUSSEY .. .. .	.. .. .	656/22.
HIGGS <i>v.</i> WALLIS .. .. .	.. .. .	983/36.
HIGGS <i>v.</i> BIDDLE .. .. .	.. .. .	1051/8.
*HIGGS <i>v.</i> CARPENTER .. .. .	.. .. .	256/21.
*RICHARDS <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	.. .. .	158/19.

## CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS BEFORE 1714: REYNARDSON DIVISION, BUNDLES 1-490.

1658.	FARRINGTON <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	406/128.
1658.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> LOWE .. .. .	407/55.
1661.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> FAYNE and BUCKERIDGE .. .. .	49/99.
1662.	FLOYD <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	26/50.
1675.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> DUNCKLYN .. .. .	415/293.
1678.	LOWTH <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	490/39.
1679.	DIKE <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	126/124.
*1692.	WARNER <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	263/21.
1692.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> BISHOPP .. .. .	433/85.
1695.	TREVANION <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	152/95 and 434/139.
1697.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> TIDCOMBE <i>et al.</i> .. .. .	331/45.
1698.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> MOYER .. .. .	327/50.
1700.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> MORDAUNT .. .. .	466/107.
1703.	SUTTON <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	284/42.
1706.	BROMHALL <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	465/33.
1710.	MATSON <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	338/89 and 462/15.





## CHANCERY BILLS AND ANSWERS, 1714-1758.

*Geo. I & II	HIGGS <i>v.</i> MERES .. .. .	332/11.
*Geo. I	HIGGS <i>v.</i> BARTHOLOMEW .. .. .	358/17.
*Geo. II	HIGGS <i>v.</i> CARELESS .. .. .	861/34.
*Geo. I & II	HIGGS <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	1318/72.
*1720.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> RUDD <i>et al.</i> .. .. .	1420/21.
*1749.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> LEADHAM .. .. .	1635/27.
*Geo. I & II	HIGGS <i>v.</i> STRANGWAYS .. .. .	1749/53.
*Geo. I & II.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> GORDAN .. .. .	1751/30.
Geo. II.	"HEEKS" <i>v.</i> WARNER .. .. .	2245/56.
*1721.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> RAWLINS.. .. .	2536/32.
*1737.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> MOLYNEUX .. .. .	2586/20.

## CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS, 1714-1758: DEFENDANTS; MITFORD, WOODFORD AND SEWELL DIVISIONS ONLY.

*1720-25.	HALL <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	1186/14.
*1722.	HARRIES <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	44/24.
*1730.	NORTON <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	83/25.
*Geo. I & II	GRESSINGHAM <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	368/65.
*1730.	NEWCOME <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	1142/60.
*1730-35.	NEWCOMBE <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	1212/13.
*Geo. I & II.	EDDOES <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	1310/19.
Geo. I & II.	HIGGS <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	1318/72.
*1742.	GOODRICKE <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	2189/12.
*1750.	HERBERT <i>v.</i> HIGGS .. .. .	2132/11.

## EXCHEQUER DEPOSITIONS.

*1592.	LOVELL <i>v.</i> HYETT <i>et als.</i> .. .. .	Easter No. 10.
	(Interrogatory of JOHN HIGGES of Leominster, Hereford.)	
1665.	JOANE HIGGS, widow, South Stoke, Oxon .. .. .	17 & 18 Charles II, "Hilary" 18.
1703-4.	WILLIAM HIGGS, a defendant, <i>re</i> Manor, borough and constablewick of Burton-upon-Trent, and the constablewick of Horninglowe and Weetmore, Staffordshire	1 Anne, Mich. No. 24.
1705-6.	MARTIN WASTALL <i>v.</i> JOHN HIGGS. Tything of Newenham Morren, Co. Oxon	4 Anne, Easter No. 4.
1705-6.	MARTIN WASTALL <i>v.</i> JOHN HIGGS, "one of the defendants". The vicarage and parish of North Stoke and the tything of Newnham Murren, Co. Oxon	4 Anne, Trinity No. 6.
1718-19.	STEPHEN HIGGS and ELEANOR his wife. Right and title to a messuage, etc., in Conarton <i>alias</i> Conderton, in the parish of Overbury, Co. Worcester	5 George I, Mich. No. 22.

## COURT OF REQUESTS.

1485-1547.	HUGH HYGGIS <i>v.</i> WALTER WESTCOTE. Answer and fragment of bill	8/147.
1547-1553.	JAMES HIGGS <i>v.</i> SIR NICHOLAS POYNTZ, Knt., and others, <i>re</i> Lands at Bagpath in Gloucester	18/16.
*1558-1603.	WILLIAM HIGGS <i>v.</i> ELLEN HIGGS, <i>re</i> Lands in Bradfield, Co. Berks	43/33.
*1558-1603.	WILLIAM PATE <i>v.</i> WILLIAM HIGGES, <i>re</i> Money matters, Gloucestershire	49/49.
*1558-1603.	ROGER HIGGS <i>v.</i> THOMAS SIMONS, <i>re</i> The Parsonage of Basildon, Berks	72/77.
1558-1603.	ROGER MEDOLPHIE <i>v.</i> WILLIAM HIGGES, <i>re</i> Lands extended by the defendant	135/72.





## STAR CHAMBER PROCEEDINGS.

- 1547-53. JAMES HIGGES, JOAN his wife and RALPH their son *v.* 6/39.  
SIR NICHOLAS POYNTEs, WILLIAM WINSAM and ———  
BELL, *re* Illegal distress at Bagpath in Gloucestershire,  
seizure of goods, etc.
- 1509-47. WILLIAM CLERK *v.* ROGER YONG, THOMAS CROXFORD, 10/29-32.  
JOHN HYGGES and others, *re* Forcible ejectment from  
a tenement in the Manor of Basildon, Berks

(*Note.*—Any of the foregoing marked by an asterisk have been examined in the preparation of this work and an abstract of same will be found either in Part I or Part II.)

*In the Public Record Office, London.*

## EARLY CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS.

79/43.

**Benton v. Higgs.**

A.D. c. 1486.

*Orators :* RICHARD BENTON, the elder, JOHN HIGGIS and JAMYS CHAUNCE.

That the said RICHARD BENTON bound to prentice his son RICHARD BENTON, the younger, to one ROBERT GAYNARD and AGNES, his wife, for seven years. ROBERT GAYNARD is dead and JOHN GAUGE married the said AGNES, who is now also dead, and JOHN GAUGE is become servant to ROBERT STRAUNGE, "which hath been Maier of the Town of Bristowe" (Bristol), and the said JOHN GAUGE "hath non occupation and they die dayly in Bristow"; wherefore RICHARD BENTON, the younger, departed to his father in Worcestershire for three days, who took him back to Bristowe. JOHN GAUGE hath taken action against JOHN HIGGS, and JAMES CHAUNCE, as against the said RICHARD Benton, the elder, which came with the said "JOHN" BENTON, the younger, to entreat JOHN GAUGE for the three days, which RICHARD BENTON, the younger, went to see his father. Your orators have been arrested and put in suertie to the said action.

*Defendants :* The Mayor and Constables of Bristol.

196/58.

**Cole v. Hygges.**

1486-1515.

*Orator :* ROBERT COLE.

That he and his ancestors of long tyme hath been seised (possessed) and yet be in fee of a messuage and 8 acres of land at Kennerton, Gloucester. Many evidences and charters concerning the same are in the hands of THOMAS HYGGES and JOHN NIGHTYNGALE, who refuse to deliver them up.

*Defendants :* THOMAS HYGGES and JOHN NIGHTINGALE.

187/70.

**Belingham v. Cotton.**

1486-1515.

*Orators :* JOHN BELINGHAM and ROBERT COLE.

"Whereas they byn seased in fee of a messuage and 6 acres of land and close in Kennerton, Gloucester, the evidences thereof are in possession of GEORGE COTTON, Gentleman, and THOMAS HYGGS who refuse to deliver same."

*Defendants :* GEORGE COTTON and THOMAS HYGGS.

*In the Principal Probate Registry, London.*

## ARCHDEACONRY OF BERKS.

ORIGINAL PAPERS.

A.D. 1540. June —.

The [Inventory of] ROGER HYGGS goods persyd . . . PRYNCE, Mastr JOHN ROCKS . . . EDWARD KENNER the xx — of June y<sup>n</sup> the yere of or lorde . . . a meceeee xl.





*In the Hall.*

<i>Imprimis</i> : yn the Halle a table w <sup>t</sup> a payer of trestylls	. . . . .	xij <sup>d</sup> .
<i>It</i> : vj coussynes . . . . .	. . . . .	ij <sup>s</sup> .
<i>It</i> : the hangyngs ther . . . . .	. . . . .	xij <sup>d</sup> .
<i>It</i> : a forme . . . . .	. . . . .	iiij <sup>d</sup> .
<i>It</i> : a cobbard . . . . .	. . . . .	xij <sup>d</sup> .
<i>It</i> : ij jonyd stolls . . . . .	. . . . .	iiij <sup>d</sup> .
<i>It</i> : a carpet for the cobbard . . . . .	. . . . .	iiij <sup>d</sup> .

*In the chamber next to the Hall.*

[Various items, including]

<i>It</i> : an old cott of the Kyngs lyvery . . . . .	viiij <sup>s</sup> .
<i>It</i> : a nother cott of my lord prynce lyvery . . . . .	x <sup>s</sup> .

*In the chamber over the Hall* [various items].*Yn the kytchyne* [various items].*Yn the buttery* [various items of no particular interest].Total x<sup>d</sup>. viij<sup>s</sup>.

"Nothing but the surnames to give a clue to locality.—G. S."—Note by Mr. GEORGE SHERWOOD, F.S.G., who examined the original inventory for the compiler, W. M. H.)

*In the Public Record Office, London.*

## COURT OF REQUESTS PROCEEDINGS.

*Elizabeth, 72/77.***Higgs v. Simons.**

A.D. 1590. c. 32 Eliz.

ROGER HIGGS of White Waltham, Berks., yeoman, complains that whereas of his own franck benevolence and natural zeal he gave KATHERINE HIGGS his sister towards her preferment in marriage £60, and about August 23 ELIZ. became bound to her for the payment thereof. Afterward without the assent, and liking of your subject, the said KATHERINE did marry and take to husband one THOMAS SIMONS having then no porcion, stock, or living for their maintenance whereby the said KATHERINE should become greatly distressed without the aid and relief of your said subject with whom she then continewed and had her dwelling. Pitying their estate he appointed SIMONS, as his baylif, and whole dealer in and about his parsonage of Basselden, Co. Berks, and of all other his lands, &c., there. SIMONS was paid the £60 but stanced (?) by a very gredy covetus minde, and having still in possession the said obligation, hath lately put it in suit against your subject, &c.

*Answer* of THOMAS SYMONS 29 May, 32 Eliz. : That JOHN HIGGS of Basselden, yeoman, deceased, father of the complt. and of KATHERINE this deft's nowe wife, caused the complt. to deliver this deft. an obligation to pay £60. JOHN HIGGS died about Feb. (25 Eliz.). Deft acted as bailiff to the complt. and was duly paid for that service, but the £60 is still owing.

*Replication* of ROGER HIGGS, 25 June (32 Eliz.) : That the deft. was paid the marriage money out of his receipts of the tithes, &c., of Bassildon. Maintains his said Bill of complaint.

43/33.

**Higgs v. Higgs.**

(Abstract.)

A.D. (c. 1591-2), 34 Elizabeth :

To the Queen's most excellent Majestie :

Complaining sheweth unto your royal majestie your loyal subject WILLIAM HIGGS, the younger, of Brodefeild (Bradfield), Co. Berks, yeoman. That whereas THOMAS STAFFORD of Brodefeild, Esquire, deceased being seized in fee of one messuage, or tene-ment, lying in a place called Buckoldrewe, in Brodefeild, aforesaid, and of lands etc.,





thereunto belonging, did by deed indented bearing date the 23rd of March 25 Elizabeth (1583), grant and let unto your said subject, the said messuage, and other the premises, for term of 21 years, if your subject and GEORGE HIGGS your subject's son, or either of them should so long live. By force whereof, your subject into the said messuage entered, and being so disposed thereof did afterwards agree with one WILLIAM HIGGS, the elder, of Brodfeild, now deceased, to grant the said messuage and premises unto him the said WILLIAM HIGGS, the elder, for term of ten years at a yearly rent of twenty nobles.

According to which agreement your subject did by writing indented upon the 7th day of February, 26 Elizabeth (1584) demise and grant the said messuage and premises to the said WILLIAM HIGGS, the elder, who entered into same and paid yearly so long as he did live the said 20 nobles unto your subject. The said WILLIAM HIGGS, the elder, died having made ELLEN, his wife, and ELIZABETH, his daughter (afterwards wife of JOHN WILDER) executrixes of his last Will and testament dated September, 1589. But so it is the said ELLEN HIGGS, having upon the death of her said husband entered into possession of the said messuage, and premises, now refuses to pay the said rent thereof etc. In consideration whereof may a writ of subpena be directed unto her commanding her thereby to appear in court and there to answer the premises etc.

(Signed) FRA. MOORE.

(Note.—In Chapter VI all the HIGGS family entries recorded in the parish registers of Bradfield from 1559–1812 pertaining to marriage are given. The will of WILLIAM HIGGS of Broadfield, Berks, was proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Berkshire in 1589 (H. 298). This is the will of WILLIAM HIGGS, the elder, referred to in this case in Chancery (probably an uncle of WILLIAM HIGGS, the younger). The intermarriage between the families of HIGGS and WILDER will be again noted from this suit.

The HIGGS family continued to reside in this Berkshire village down to the eighteenth century. On 8 November, 1705, one JOANE HIGGS, a widow, dated her will in this place which was proved by her son THOMAS (3 October, 1709) in the Archdeaconry Court of Berks. She mentions her grandson THOMAS HIGGS (son of her son THOMAS). She mentions EDWARD HIGGS as her "eldest son of Basildon" and his sons, GEORGE, JOHN, EDWARD and THOMAS "of Basildon, Berks". She mentions her son WILLIAM HIGGS and also her son JOHN HIGGS, and his two children EDWARD and JANE.

In all probability the HIGGS family of Bradfield settled there from Basildon, Berks, which is just below Streatley, across the river from South Stoke, Oxfordshire.)

*In the Public Record Office, London.*

#### EXCHEQUER DEPOSITIONS.

34 Elizabeth, Easter, No. 10.

(Abstract.)

A.D. 1592.

Depositions of witnesses taken at Leominster, Co. Hereford, the 12th. of April, 34 Elizabeth (1592) on the behalf of FRANCIS LOVELL, Esquire plaintiff against THOMAS HYETT, THOMAS DALLOWE and RICHARD CRADOCK defendants.

JOHN HIGGES of the town of Leominster, yeoman, of the age of 90 years or thereabouts, being sworn and examined to the first interrogatory sayeth the parties the plaintiff and defendants and hath known the mills in the interrogatory mentioned for forty years last past. To the second and third interrogatories this deponent is ignorant.

To the fourth interrogatory this deponent sayeth that he doth not know to the contrary but that the farmers and occupiers of Crows Mills have always used to maintain and keep the wear above the said mills, howbeit he sayeth that about forty years last past he this deponent was servant and loder under the farmer of the Marsh mills, at which time of his service there, he knew when the water grind scarce that the occupiers of the Marsh mills and the WALKERS which held their clothes mylled upon the same water, of good will did send two men to help to mend the weare, &c., &c., &c.

[The depositions of other witnesses follow; these have been read through, but they contain no further information *re* HIGGS. The suit is apparently one concerning the maintenance of the weirs above the said mills.]

(Note.—From this Exchequer Deposition it is evident that JOHN HIGGES was living in, or near, Leominster, Co. Hereford, in 1552, which town lies about six miles N.W. from Weobley, and that he was born c. 1502.)





*In the Public Record Office, London.*

COURT OF REQUESTS PROCEEDINGS.

*Elizabeth, 49/49.*

**Pate v. Higges.**

A.D. 1595, c. 37 Eliz.

WYLLYAM PATE of Cheltenham, Gloucester, mercer, complains that he was indebted to STEPHEN SOAME of London, gent., and about seven years now last past intreated WILLIAM HIGGS\* of London, mercer, to compound with SOAME for the same. HIGGS compounded with SOAME for £17, yet affirmed that he had done so for £28, and that one JOHN POWELL of Oxenton, Co. Glouc., gent., a near kinsman of your subject was indebted to HIGGS in £8 6s. 8d.

Bond to HIGGS 25 Nov., 26 Eliz., in £320, duly paid but the statute remained in the hands of HIGGS, uncanceled. (Complicated transactions.) Prays writ of Privy Seal against HIGGS.

*Answer* of WILLIAM HIGGES, 11 Nov., 37 Eliz.: That the matters in the complt's Bill are most slaunderouslye devised, ymagined and untrulye sett for the intendinge thereby to color and obscure his owne badd and lewde dealinge and to put him to great costs charges and expences in the lawe, etc.

*In the Public Record Office, London.*

CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS.

*Series II, 257/13.*

**Bacon v. Higges.**

A.D. 1599. 21 May.

*Orator*: FRANCIS BACON of Greys Inne, Co. Middlesex, Esquire.

Whereas the Queen by Letters Patent dated 27 Feb. 40 Eliz. did lease to the said FRANCIS BACON, the Rectory and Church of Cheltenham, with its appurtenances, Co. Glo'ster, for 40 years, which then were and now are held and possessed by one ELIZABETH BADGER (BADGHOTT) for 18 years yet to come. THOMAS STEPHENS, nephew of the said ELIZABETH BADGER, and WILLIAM HIGGS, a merchant in London, her brother (brother-in-law) offered that if the complainant would mortgage his lease, they would furnish him with One thousand Marks which he needed. Mortgage and redemption.

*Defendants*: WILLIAM HIGGS, ELIZABETH BADGER (BADGHOTT), THOMAS STEPHENS (STEPHENS).

*Answer*, 26 May, 1599: That THOMAS HIGGS, the Defendant ELIZABETH's late husband, and before him THOMAS HIGGS (HIGGES) father of the said THOMAS, and of the Defendant WILLIAM HIGGS, held and enjoyed the Rectory of Cheltenham under a lease by letters patent of the Queen.

The said THOMAS HIGGS, the son, about eleven years past, made his Will and left his interest therein to this Defendant ELIZABETH *and her eight children*, "most of them small and yonge".

A new lease was granted to ROBERT STEPHENS, this Defendant's brother for her behoof for 21 years.

That the bargain was *an absolute sale and not a mortgage*.

*Vide* HIGGES Family of Cheltenham and Charlton Kings, in the account of the HIGGS Family of Gloucestershire.

*Series II, 281/32.*

**Morwent v. Higgs.**

A.D. 1605. 21 November.

*Orator*: WILLIAM MORWENT of Harteburie Morwent, Co. Glo'ster, Gentleman.

That SIR NICHOLAS ARNOLD, Knt., deceased by Indenture dated 1 Sept. 15 Elizabeth, granted unto WILLIAM MORWENT of Gloucestershire, Gentleman, uncle to your orator,

\* This was no doubt WILLIAM HIGGS, Esqre., Lord of the Manor of Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester, and of Stepney, London, a member of the Mercers' Company, son of THOMAS HIGGES of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester.





and to ELIZABETH his wife, a messuage and two water corn mills in Rudford in the county of Gloucester, who granted the same to your orator JOHN MORWENT your orator's father, and your orator having occasion to borrow £700.0.0 repaid to WILLIAM HIGGS, a citizen of London, who lent the sum on mortgage of the lease of the said premises. The money has been repaid, but the said HIGGS hath assigned the lease privily to RICHARD HANDS of Gloucester now deceased.

Suit to obtain re-assignment of the lease.

*Defendant* : WILLIAM HIGGS.

*Answer*, 22 May, 1607, of WILLIAM HIGGS : The complainant exhibited a former Bill of Complaint in this Honourable Court yet depending to which this Defendant hath made a full answer.

(*Note*.—The above Defendant, WILLIAM HIGGS, was WILLIAM HIGGES of Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester, and of Stepney, Co. Middlesex, Merchant and Member of the Mercers' Company. *Vide* HIGGS Family of Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester.)

*Series II*, 374/9.

**Partridge v. Higgs.**

(*Abstract of Bill only.*)

A.D. 1622. 28 May.

*Orators* : ANTHONY PARTRIDGE of Wishanger, Co. Gloucester, and ALICE, his wife.

That ELIZABETH BADGHOTT, widow, late of Cheltenham, Co. Gloucester, deceased was seized of an Estate for years of the Rectory and Parsonage of Cheltenham, with the appurtenances and the Chappell of Charlton (Charlton Kings) to the said Rectory annexed, did in consideration of a marriage to be had between ROBERT HIGGS of Cheltenham, gentleman, her sonne and ALICE, daughter of TIMOTHY CARTWRIGHT of Great Washbourne, make a grant of an annuity of £40 per annum out of the said Rectory. The said ROBERT HIGGS assigned his estate to your orator ALICE, being then his wife and shortly after died.

Concerning the apportionment of the Rectory etc. and estate therein.

*Defendants* : THOMAS HIGGS, JOHN HIGGS, DANYELL FOWLER, ANNCELL FOWLER, WILLIAM BAYLIFFE and HENRY FOWLER.

CHANCERY DEPOSITIONS, BEFORE 1714.

365/14.

**Nicholas Higgs, D.D. v. Samuel Powell, gent.**

Depositions taken at Langeport, Somerset, 30 December, 1617.

The plaintiff, Dr. NICHOLAS HIGGS married MARIE, daughter of WILLIAM POWELL, D.D., late father of the defendant.

One of the deponents mentions that plaintiff owns land in Alderwayes, Staffordshire, and Allermore, Somerset.

Mention is also made of lands and tenements in Reading, Berkshire, worth to be sold £1,000, late belonging to the said Dr. POWELL, decd.

*Vide* HIGGS Family of High Ham, Co. Somerset.

(*Note*.—A DAVID POWELL married at Henbury, Co. Gloucester, MARIE HIGGS, 4 October, 1641. This marriage is recorded in the registers of Slimbridge, Gloucester.)

CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS.

*Series II*, 383/80.

**Smith v. Higgs.**

1622. 4 November.

JOHN HIGGS of Lawrence Waltham, in the county of Berks, yeoman, was betroathed to ELIZABETH SMITH, sister to HENRY SMITH of Lawrence Waltham and RALFE SMITH. He borrowed money from the last named and as security gave land called "Higgs'





Croft " and land at Mylly Field, Castell acre, in the Common field called " Wyntocke ", and three acres in Downfield, in the Parish of St. Lawrence Waltham, and HENRY & RALFE SMITH entered into a bond for £200. Bond placed in this suit.

*Vide* HIGGS Family of Lawrence Waltham, Co. Berks.

*Series II, 372/14.*

**Packer v. Higgs.**

A.D. 1623. 21 February.

*Orators*: TOBY PACKER, Gentleman, JOHN ELLIS, ROBERT PACKER and HENRY LANE, Churchwardens of the parish of Cheltenham, Co.-Gloucester, and WALTER WHITHORNE and JOHN DOWDESWELL, Churchwardens of the Chappell of Charlton Kings in the said county being annexed to the Rectory of Cheltenham.

That the late QUEEN ELIZABETH did by Letters Patent about 27 February in the 40th year of her reign, grant unto SIR FRANCIS BACON, Knt., now Lord Verulam and Viscount St. Alban, the said Rectory and Chapel with the appurtenances, he and his assigns to provide two chaplains and two deacons and bread and wine and other necessaries for the celebration of Divine Service and administration of the Sacraments.

The Estate of the said SIR FRANCIS BACON came by conveyance to TIMOTHIE CARTWRIGHT, DANIEL FOWLER, ANSELME FOWLER, WILLIAM BAYLIE, HENRY FOWLER, THOMAS HIGGS, JOHN HIGGS, and ALICE, by which they are yet possessed of the said Rectory and Chapel. Further Lease by *James I* to FRANCIS MORYE, and FRANCIS PHILLIPS, from whom by conveyance the same is come to SIR BAPTIST HICKS, Knight, and Baronet, Concerning the maintenance of Divine Service in Cheltenham and Charlton Kings this suit deals.

*Defendants*: THOMAS HIGGS, JOHN HIGGS, ANTHONY PARTRIDGE, and ALICE his wife, TYMOTHY CARTWRIGHT, DANIEL FOWLER, ANSELME FOWLER, WILLIAM BAYLIE, and HENRY FOWLER.

*Answer*: That the Rectory & Chapel in the Bill named came to Defendants TYMOTHIE CARTWRIGHT, DANIEL FOWLER, ANSELME FOWLER, WILLIAM BAYLIE, and HENRY FOWLER intrust for the use of the Defendants THOMAS HIGGS, and JOHN HIGGS, ELIZABETH BADGHOTT, widow, their mother deceased, and ROBERT HIGGS their late brother deceased.

*Vide* Account of the HIGGS Family of Cheltenham and Charlton Kings in the county of Gloucester in this Appendix.

*James I, H. 30/29.*

**Higge v. Higge.**

A.D. 1624. 23 November.

*Orator*: NICHOLAS HIGGE (*als.* REYNOLDS) of the City of Exeter, Merchant, exor., of (?—torn off).

The said NICHOLAS of Plympton St. Mary's, Co. Devon, yeoman. That the said JOHN HIGGE, *als* REYNOLDS, being seised of diverse lands in demesne, about 4 years since, married ELIZABETH WARRING widow, and is since dead. The said ELIZABETH endeavouring to defeat and defraud your orator of the greatest part of the estate left by his said father unto him as exor., detains money and household goods. Your orator's uncle SIMON HELE.

Estate of JOHN HIGGE, *als* REYNOLDS.

*Defendants*: ELIZABETH HIGGE *als* REYNOLDS, JOHN WARRING, THOMAS WARRING, and ANDREW POLLEFON.

*Series II, 405/10.*

**Higgs v. Higgs.**

(*Abstract.*)

A.D. 1267. 28 November.

To the right honourable SIR THOMAS COVENTRY, knight, Lord Keeper of the greate Seale of England.





Humbly complaining sheweth unto your good lordship your humble and daily orator RICHARD HIGGS of Lawrence Waltham Co. Berks., carpenter. That whereas JOHN HIGGS of Lawrence Waltham, husbandman, brother of your orator, being in want of money did about five years since privately borrow of your orator £15, and the said money not being enough to supply the then present occasions of the said JOHN HIGGS, he did about the same time request your orator to lend him more money and your orator having none in his own hands but one WILLIAM GROVE of Rushcombe Co. Berks, being indebted unto your orator £18, and your orator being willing to pleasure his said brother did give way that the said WILLIAM GROVE should pay unto the said JOHN HIGGS the said £18, whereupon the said WILLIAM GROVE did pay the said £18 unto your orator's brother who did thereupon become indebted unto your orator in the full sum of £33. And your orator further sheweth that he having for the space of three years together or thereabouts wrought in his trade of a carpenter for the said JOHN HIGGS for which the said JOHN HIGGS was to pay unto your orator seven shilling the week, your orator and the said JOHN HIGGS in or about the first day of November 1623 did for all matters fully account together upon which account the said JOHN HIGGS was found to be justly indebted unto your orator in the full sum of £38. 11. 6, which the said JOHN HIGGS did then promise to pay. Your orator hath divers times solicited the said JOHN HIGGS to pay the said money but he, little regarding his promise, aforesaid, or the fraternal love that should be between him and your orator doth refuse to pay the said £38. 11. 6.

In tender consideration whereof may it please your good lordship the premises considered to grant unto your orator his Majesty's most gracious writ of subpoena to be directed unto the said JOHN HIGGS commanding him thereby to appear in court there to answer the premises, and to stand and abide such order as to your lordship shall seem fit.

(Signed) JO. PLOMER.

(Note.—Lawrence Waltham and White Waltham are two Berkshire villages, lying between Reading and Windsor, in a south-easterly direction from South Stoke, Oxon. At the time of the above suit there were branches of the HIGGS family living in both these adjoining villages, and in 1661 the Wills of RALPH HIGGS, and his son RALPH, were both proved in that year, possibly the son and the grandson of one of the above-mentioned brothers. RALPH HIGGS, the elder, of Lawrence Waltham, followed the trade of carpenter, and mentions in his will (pr. P.P.C. "May", fo. 25) his son RALPH and two daughters MARY and ANNE, whilst RALPH HIGGS, the younger, left all his freehold property to his sister ANNE. In the adjoining village of White Waltham one ROGER HIGGS had died in 1613, described as "Gentleman" in his will (pr. P.C.C. "Capel", fo. 20), and by ALICE his wife, he left a son JOHN, *alias* REDFERN, HIGGS, Gentleman, also a son ROGER HIGGS, and two daughters, ANNE and MARGARET. He also mentions his sister "TAMES." Now a JOHN HIGGS, Gentleman, died in Reading gaol 20 March, 1615, and was buried at Waltham, Co. Berks. This was not the JOHN HIGGS of Lawrence Waltham, husbandman, one of the brothers in the case in Chancery, but may have been their father.

The JOHN HIGGS, husbandman or yeoman, of Lawrence Waltham mentioned in the aforesaid suit was no doubt the same JOHN HIGGS mentioned in the suit "SMITH *v.* HIGGS", 4 November, 1622, Chancery Proceedings, Series II, 383/80, who was betrothed to ELIZABETH SMITH, sister of HENRY SMITH of Lawrence Waltham, and of RALPH (RALFE) SMITH of that place, and there is every probability that JOHN HIGGS of Lawrence Waltham, who borrowed money from his brother RICHARD, who worked for him as a carpenter, was the father of RALPH HIGGS who died in 1661, and grandfather of RALPH, the younger, the name of "RALPH" coming into the HIGGS family from this SMITH marriage.)

#### CHANCERY DEPOSITIONS BEFORE 1714.

350/13.

#### Englishe *v.* Higgs and Atkins.

1634.

Depositions taken at Cheltenham, Gloucester, 5 June.

This suit concerns the estate of JOHN HIGGS, deceased late husband of the plaintiff JANE ENGLISH. Mention is made of HENRY HIGGS, son of the said JOHN HIGGS, also of one SIR BAPTIST HICKS.





The defendant THOMAS HIGGS is the sole executor of his late mother ELIZABETH BADGER (? BAGOT or BAGHOTT).

*In the Public Record Office, London.*

CHANCERY BILLS AND ANSWERS.

*Charles I, H. 66/10.*

**Higgs v. Carter.**

A.D. 1635. June 18.

*Orator* : JOHN HIGGS of London, gent.

Your Orator was heretofore interested for his own life and that of JOAN his wife and AGNES their daughter of & in a messuage & certain lands in Basseldon, Co. Berks in tenure of RICHARD SKYNNER of Basseldon, husbandman, value £10 p.a. Orator granted a reversion of said premises, after the decease of JOANE his wife, to THOMAS CARTER, late of Beenham, Berks., yeoman, decd., his brother-in-law as security for debt. Said JOANE died and THOMAS CARTER entered said premises & occupied same for 3 years by which time he was satisfied of the debt of £23. THOMAS CARTER dyed, and RICHARD CARTER of Silchester Co. Southton., his son, as executor or administrator, entered same, & claims whole interest in premises. Your orator's wife JOANE during her life lived in the said messuage with the said SKYNNER in the time of your orator's sickness, & brought to the said house divers of your orator's property value £40, which said SKYNNER unjustly retains.

*Answer* of RICHARD CARTER & RICHARD SKYNNER : 9 Oct., 1635. That THOMAS CARTER was bound for complt. great sums & did pay same, & also lent complt., divers sums of money. The complt.'s wife did bring unto defendant SKYNNER 4 pewter dishes & one flock bed, value 10s. etc.

CHANCERY DEPOSITIONS BEFORE 1714.

158/19.

**Mordecai Richards v. William Paston and William Higgs.**

1647-8.

Depositions taken at Chipping Sudbury, Gloucester, 14 Jan.

This suit relates to the selling of a certain messuage in Horton, Co. Gloucester, by EDMUND RICHARDS, deceased (brother of the plaintiff), and the defendant WILLIAM HIGGES to the other defendant WILLIAM PASTON.

There is also a cross-suit in which WILLIAM HIGGES becomes the plaintiff.

Among the deponents we find :

LAWRENCE HIGGS of Horton, Gloucester, yeoman, aged 42 years.

MARGARET HIGGES, wife of the said LAWRENCE HIGGS, aged 31 years.

MARY HIGGS of Horton, Gloucester, spinster, aged 35 years.

ROBERT HIGGS of Horton, yeoman, aged 30 years.

THOMAS HIGGS of Horton, Gloucester, yeoman, aged 22 years, a brother of the said WILLIAM HIGGES.

LEWIS HIGGS of Horton, butcher, aged 30 years.

*Vide* Higgs Family of Horton, Co. Gloucester.

CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS BEFORE 1714.

*Bridges, 383/78.*

**Higgs v. Wharton and others.**

A.D. 1654/5. 6 February.

To the right honorable, the Lords Comrs. for ye greates Seale of England.

Humbly complaining, sheweth unto your good lordship your daily orator BARTON HIGGS of Southstoke Co. Oxford, gent. That whereas KATHERINE WHISTLER, sister of THOMAS MARTYN of Mapledurham, Co. Oxford, and of RICHARD MARTYN of South Stoke, and widow, and relict and sole executrix of the Will of WILLIAM WHISTLER, late of Elvington, in the parish of Goring, Co. Oxford, gent., deceased, one of the Purveyors for Composition wheat to the late *King Charles*, after the death of her said husband, that is





to say about twenty years since, did settle part of the said WILLIAM WHISTLER's estate upon your orator, and upon one JOHN WILDER, of Payables, in South Stoke, gent., upon trust for the benefit of her children KATHERINE, late wife of ROBERT GREENEBROUGH of Crowell, Co. Oxford, gent., deceased, and now the wife of ROGER HOUSE of Huntscombe, Co. Oxford, gent., MARTHA, wife of EDWARD MAYNARD of Layton, Co. Essex, monger, and DIONESSE DUTTON, widow of JOHN DUTTON, deceased. Afterwards the said KATHERINE WHISTLER married JEREMIAH WHARTON, now deceased, who at the time of the said marriage was a schoolmaster to the children of the said WILLIAM WHISTLER in the house of the said KATHERINE WHISTLER. In pursuance of the said trust your orator sold unto one ROBERT WHISTLER of Goring, Co. Oxford, gent., now deceased, brother of the said WILLIAM WHISTLER, certain goods late belonging to the said WILLIAM WHISTLER for £30. Your orator entered into a bond for £60 penalty for securing the repayment of the said £30, and afterwards your orator duly paid the said £30. But now so it is the said KATHERINE WHARTON, JOHN WILDER, ROGER HOUSE, and KATHERINE, his wife, EDWARD MAYNARD, and MARTHA his wife, DIONESSE DUTTON and ANNE WHISTLER the widow and administratrix of the said ROBERT WHISTLER, combining and confederating together, refuse to discharge or cancel the said bond of £60. May therefore writs of subpena be directed unto them etc. etc. etc.

(Signed) JO. SWINNERTON.

*Bridges, 29/120.*

**Higgs v. Whistler and another.**

(Abstract.)

A.D. 1656/7. 11 February.

To the right honourable the Lords Comrs. of the great seal of England.

In all humble manner complaining, sheweth unto your lordships your orator RICHARD HIGGES of Goring Co. Oxon. yeoman. That whereas ROBERT WHISTLER, late of Stapnell, in the parish of Goring, gent., deceased, being in his lifetime lawfully seized in fee of lands (Specified) in Goring adjoining to the land heretofore held by one WILLIAM PANCE, and heretofore in the occupation of one THOMAS HIGGES, he the said ROBERT by indenture dated the 27th day of May, 18 *James I* (1620), did together with SIR EDWARD CREEKE, late of Reading Co. Berks., knight (? CLERKE), since deceased, who had then some pretended interest in the said premises, grant and sell to RICHARD CROMPTON of the City of London, gentleman, since deceased, the said premises for term of 99 years at a yearly peppercorn rent. By virtue whereof the said RICHARD CROMPTON into the said premises did enter, and was thereof seized, and being so possessed by his deed dated the 10th of October, 17 *Charles I* (1641) did convey the premises unto your orator who hath been from that time, and still is in possession thereof, and hath taken the rents and profits thereof. That the reversion of the premises after the expiration of the said term being in the said ROBERT WHISTLER in fee simple your orator agreed to purchase the same and paid the full purchase money agreed upon. But before the said fee simple of the premises could be made over unto your orator the said ROBERT WHISTLER died. Now so it is ANNE WHISTLER, the widow and late wife of the said ROBERT WHISTLER, by combination and confederacy with JOHN ALLEN of Basseldon (Basildon) Co. Berks, Esquire, refuses to convey the said fee simple unto your orator etc. etc. etc.

(Signed) THO. HOLT.

*Bridges, 431/51.*

**Salisbury v. Higgs.**

(Abstract.)

A.D. 1667. 29 January.

*Answer* of ROGER HIGGS, gentleman, one of the defendants to the Bill of Complaint of THOMAS SALISBURY, Esquire. That about May 1664 this defendant was desired to lend a sum of money which he condescended to do if the *deft.* SALISBURY would give him good security, who nominated plaintiff SALISBURY, his kinsman, affirming he had an estate in Co. Flinte of about £500 p.a. Money matters.





339/10.

**Thomas Comber, gent., and Elizabeth his wife v. Henry Heighes.\***

A.D. 1670.

Depositions taken at Alton, Hampshire, 4 April.

The defendant HENRY HEIGHES is the brother of RICHARD HEIGHES, who on his decease left issue two daughters only namely the plaintiff ELIZABETH COMBER, who is now about 20 years of age, and MARY HEIGHES, who is now about 15 years of age. Among the deponents we find :

EDWARD HEIGHES, of Lincoln's Inn, Middlesex, gentleman.

MARY HEIGHES, of Wordlam, Hampshire, widow, aged 80 years, mother of the said HENRY HEIGHES and RICHARD HEIGHES.

*Bridges, 499/32.***Higgs v. Morris.***(Abstract.)*

A.D. 1674. April.

*Answer* of JOHN MORRIS Esq., MATHEW JOHNSON Esq., & MICHAEL BRIGH—gent., three of the defts. to the Bill of ROGER HIGGS Esq., & others. Know of no incumbrances made by Rt. Hon. GEO., DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM on the capital messuage called "Yorke House" in the Strand other than set forth in schedule.

23 April, 1674 : *Answers* of HON. EDWARD SEYMOUR Esq., SIR CHARLES HARBORD, Knt., & RANALD GRAHME Esq., three of the defts.

23 March, 1673(-4) : The answers of GEORGE, DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM, EDWARD SEYMOUR Esq., SIR CHARLES HARBORD, SIR ROBERT CLAYTON & ———(torn). That an Indenture Tripartite was sealed by him the DUKE OF BUCKS., Rt. Hon. THOS. LORD VISCT. LATTIMER, Lord High Treasurer of England, & Dr. TILLOTSON, formerly trustees of the Duke unto the complts. ROGER HIGGS, EMERY HILL, NICHOLAS EDLIN & JOHN GREEN purporting to be such lease of the mansion called Yorke House, & the other tenements in the Bill for the purpose in the Bill set forth.

Two long *Answers* and three schedules of leases, etc., concerning the incumbrances on "Yorke House".

*Bridges, 504/36.***Iremonger v. Higgs.***(Abstract.)*

A.D. 1681. 21 February.

*Orator* : JOHN IREMONGER of St. Pauls Shadwell Co. Middx., brewer.

Your orator married one JOHN HIGGES his wife's sister, & there happening some differences between your orator & his wife, your orator removed to Maidstone in Kent, where he was arrested through the design of the said JOHN HIGGS.

Money matters.

*Defendant* : JOHN HIGGS.

*Answer* of JOHN HIGGES : That ANNE SYMONS, late wife of JOHN SYMONS, decd., & mother of SARAH S. this deft's wife & JANE S. wife of the complt. gave said JANE certain money to be equally divided between said SARAH & JANE. This deft. hath lent said JANE and her husband several sums of money.

JOHN SYMONS = ANNE.

JOHN IREMONGER = JANE SYMONS.

SARAH SYMONS = JOHN HIGGS.

of St. Paul's, Shadwell,

Co. Middlesex, Brewer.

Suit: 21 Feb., 1681.

\* PETER DE HEYGHEZ was one of the witnesses to a quit claim deed by THOMAS ATE BAILLE to JOHN DE COUR of Okhangr, Co. Hants, dated 13 June, 1392. This deed was among Mr. H. R. MOULTON's collection of ancient deeds offered for sale in 1930. This is an interesting early form of the patronymic of HIGGES or HIGGS. In 1336 one SIMON DE HEIGHES bore arms "a chevron between 3 boars' heads" (DE GRAY BIRCH seals, Brit. Mus.).





*Collins, 302.*

**Middleton v. Higgs.**

*(Bill and two answers.)*

1690. 11 November.

WILLIAM MIDDLETON of Sladend in Brightwell, Berks., yeoman, and SARAH his wife (administratrix of GRIFFITH HIGGS, late of South Stoke, Oxon., yeoman, her first husband),  
v. MARY HIGGS, JOHN HIGGS, GEORGE JEMETT and GRIFFITH HIGGS.

That GRIFFITH HIGGS heretofore of South Stoke, D.D., deceased, being in or about 1659, possessed of and interested in, in his own proper right, a great personal estate to the value of £10,000, and upward, and having no wife, or child, but several relations and kindred, did on or about that time make his last will and having thereby given and bequeathed several legacies to several of his said relations did thereof make his kinsmen GRIFFITH HIGGS of South Stoke, yeoman and GEO. JEMETT of Shiplacke, Oxon., yeoman his executors. And the said Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS being willing to declare and explain himself touching his said debts owing to him and the disposition thereof and of the rest of his said personal estate and how he intended the same to be settled did by a codicil dated 12 April 1659 set down all or most of his particular debts, and thereby amongst other his said debts owing to him he did charge and set down as due to him from one ANTHONY HERVEY, then of South Stoke, yeoman, upon a statute and mortgage of a lease of a living called "Wallises" (being a messuage and four yard lands in South Stoke aforesaid), being then and yet of the yearly value of £40, for the securing of an annuity of £30, for six and a half years commencing Lady Day 1657 to be paid to the said Dr. HIGGS, or to his assigns, for the which he had paid to the said ANTHONY HERVEY £155. 13s., or some such sum of his own proper money, and took the said securities, and had the same made for the payment of said annuity in the name of his nephew BARTON HIGGS, late of South Stoke, yeoman, lately deceased in trust for him the said Dr. HIGGS his executors and assigns and to be at his, and their disposal, and in and by said codicil said Dr. HIGGS did give said £155. 13s., or whatsoever of it then remained unpaid, unto his said nephew BARTON HIGGS and to two other of his nephews, viz.: GRIFFITH HIGGS and WALTER HIGGS, sons of his brother NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwicke, Berks., yeoman, then lately deceased to be divided into three equal parts amongst them. Shortly after making said will and codicil said Dr. HIGGS departed this life and said executors entered upon and possessed themselves of all said personal estate, and either proved or ought to have proved said will and codicil, and did pay—or ought to have paid—the legacies thereby given, and said WALTER HIGGS afterwards dying, and the said GRIFFITH HIGGS, son of said NICHOLAS, having married plaintiff SARAH, some years since, departed this life intestate, and the said BARTON HIGGS, presently after the decease of the said Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, by virtue of the said will or codicil, and for that he had the estate in law conveyed to him, and in his name in trust for the said Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, and his assigns, as aforesaid entered into and upon the same premises, and held and enjoyed them until his decease which happened about two months since, having before his death made his will in writing, and thereof made MARY, his wife, and JOHN HIGGS, his son his executors, who therefore entered into and upon the said premises, and have made probate of his said will and by virtue thereof, or otherwise, do now hold and enjoy the same. And the said BARTON HIGGS in his life-time surrendered up the said securities, or mortgage, and renewed, or new took the same, in his own name and to his own use, without taking any notice of your oratrix or of the right or interest that accrued and belonged to her, and doth now belong to her as she is the administratrix of her said former husband, who should have had one third part thereof or of the said money lent thereon. Plaintiffs therefore request that writs of subpoena may be issued against defendants concerning this legacy which still remains unpaid.

The *Answer* of GRIFFITH HIGGS and GEORGE JEMETT taken at South Stoke, Oxon., on 20th November 1690: In their answer these defendants say, that the defendant GRIFFITH proved the said will in the P.C.C. without the other defendant JEMETT, but did not prove the said codicil, or writing thereunto annexed, but took off the same from the said will, and ever since kept it by him albeit this defendant GRIFFITH *afterwards paid most of the legacies therein mentioned*, and given to the several persons, therein named but this defendant GEORGE JEMETT refused to intermeddle with said executorship or to act about, or concerning, said personal estate as executor. They both believe that plaintiff SARAH is *entitled* to a third part of said £155 13s., and they deny all manner





of confederacy with the said other defendants, and say that they believe that the said money should have been paid by the said BARTON HIGGS, but therein submit themselves to the judgment and direction of this Hon. Court.

The *Answer* of MARY HIGGS, widow and JOHN HIGGS taken on 19 January, 1690/1 :

In their answer these defendants say that the said Dr. HIGGS, by his last will appointed his three nephews GRIFFITH HIGGS (son of his brother BARTON HIGGS of South Stoke, yeoman), GEORGE JEMATT, of Shiplacke, Oxon., yeoman and NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwicke in Thacham, Berks., yeoman (son of his brother NICH. HIGGS of the same parish, yeoman deceased) to be his joint executors. They do not know if plaintiff SARAH is entitled to a third part of the said £155 13s. for the said MARY HIGGS was a stranger to all the matters and things aforesaid until her marriage with the said BARTON HIGGS, which was in or about May 1661 and the other defendant is but 22 years of age. They do not believe that the codicil—whereby plaintiffs claim said money—is in existence they never having seen the same. They deny all manner of confederacy with the other defendants, and claim that the said premises in question belong to them the said BARTON HIGGS having purchased the same with his own money.

#### CHANCERY DEPOSITIONS BEFORE 1714.

129/22.

#### William and Sarah Middleton v. Mary and John Higgs.

1691. 20 April.

WILLIAM MIDDLETON of Sladend in Brightwell, Berkshire, yeoman, and SARAH his wife (administratrix of GRIFFITH HIGGS, her late husband, deceased) v. MARY HIGGS, widow, and JOHN HIGGS her son (executors of BARTON HIGGS, deceased, late of South Stoake, Oxfordshire, yeoman) and GRIFFITH HIGGS.

Depositions taken at Wallingford, Berkshire, 20 April, 1691.

One of the deponents is WILLIAM HIGGS, of South Stoake, Oxfordshire, aged 51 years. In his evidence he states that the defendant MARY, was married to BARTON HIGGS on the same day that *Charles II.* married *Queen Katharine*, it being on the *Tuesday in Whitsun Week*.

Mention is made of NICHOLAS HIGGS, late of Henwicke, deed., and also of Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS, deed.

The deponents here examined are :

ANTHONY LEAVER, senr, of Wallingford, Berks., draper, aged 66 years.

ELIZABETH EELES of Wallingford, Berks., widow, aged 39 years.

ANTHONY HARVEY of Streatly, Berks., yeoman, aged 78 years (twice).

WILLIAM SNOW of Nettlebed, Oxon., clerk, aged 40 years (twice).

WILLIAM HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon., aged 51 years.

JOHN WYLDER of South Stoke, Oxon., aged 70 years.

THOMAS WARNER of South Stoke, Oxon., parish clerk, aged 61 years.

JANE GILLET (wife of EDWARD GILLET) of South Stoke, Oxon., aged 37 years.

RICHARD WILDER of South Stoke, Oxon., yeoman, aged 60 years.

From the evidence of THOMAS WARNER it appears that Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS died on 16 December and was buried on 19 December, 1659, according to the Register of South Stoke. Also that there is a monument erected in the chancel of the parish church there in remembrance of him with this inscription thereupon : " Five pounds for the use of the Church and one hundred pounds to purchase five pounds per Ann' for the use of the poore of South Stoke, and six hundred pounds to be layd out for the endowment of a Free Schole in South Stoke aforesaid".

256/21.

#### John Higgs v. Elizabeth and Thomas Carpenter.

1691.

Depositions taken at Bromsgrove, Wores., 4 May, 1691.

JOHN HIGGS the plaintiff married ELIZABETH, daughter of the defendant ELIZABETH CARPENTER, widow, by WILLIAM CARPENTER, deed.

Among the deponents we find :

URSULA HIGGS, of Bromsgrove, Wores., widow, aged 45 years.





*In the Public Record Office, London.*

CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS BEFORE 1714.

*Reynardson, 263/21.*

**Warner v. Higgs.**

*(Abstract.)*

A.D. 1692. 23 May.

*Orator & Oratrix* : JAMES WARNER of Ewelme, Co. Oxon., wheelwright, & ANNE his wife, one of the daughters of WALTER JEMETT heretofore of Shiplake, Co. Oxon., yeoman, & adminix of said WALTER, & your orators & oratrixes JOHN JEMETT of Shiplake, one of the sons of said WALTER, JOHN BOVINGTON of Marlow, Co. Bucks., husbandman & JOANE his wife, NATHANIEL BAKER of Windsor, Co. Berks, PINNER, & MARY his wife, & EDWARD HARWOOD of Reading, Co. Berks, husbandman, & SARAH his wife, which said JOHN JEMETT, ANNE, JOANE, MARY & SARAH are the surviving son & daughters of WALTER JEMETT.

That GRIFFITH HIGGS, late of Southstoke, Co. Oxon, D.D., a supporter of KING CHARLES I., lent SAMUEL AVERY, Alderman of London £700, & took bonds in the names of several of his friends, & lent said AVERY a further £800, & took a Bond in the name of said WALTER JEMETT, & made a will concerning the disposal thereof. Alderman AVERY is dead.

Suit concerning the estate of GRIFFITH HIGGS, particularly debt of £800 from Alderman AVERY.

*Defendants* : GRIFFITH HIGGS, & GEO. JEMETT, SAMUEL LOCK, BARTON DAY.

14 November, 1692 : *Answer* of SAMUEL LOCKE. That £250 of said debt was paid to WALTER JEMETT. Estate of Alderman AVERY in Ireland, partly demolished by war & rebellion.

*Bridges, 299/71.*

**Warner v. Higgs.**

*(Abstract.)*

A.D. 1692. 23 May.

*Orator & Oratrix* : JAMES WARNER of Ewelme, Co. Oxon, wheelwright, & ANNE his wife, one of the daughters of WALTER JEMETT heretofore of Shiplake, Co. Oxon, yeoman, dec. & one of the Adminixes with Will annexed of said WALTER JEMETT, yr orators JOHN JEMETT of Shiplake, one of the sons of said WALTER, JOHN BOVINGTON of Marlow, Co. Bucks, husbandman, & JOANE his wife, NATHANIEL BAKER of Windsor, Co. Berks, & MARY his wife, & EDWARD HARWOOD of Reading, Co. Berks, & SARAH his wife, which said JOHN JEMETT, ANN, JOANE, MARY & SARAH are the surviving sons & daughters of said WALTER.

GRIFFITH HIGGS, heretofore Chaplain to KING CHARLES I., being possessed of a considerable estate, lent SAMUEL AVERY, Alderman of London £700. Dr. HIGGS made his will 1659 (having no wife or child) & made his kinsman GRIFFITH HIGGS of Southstoke, yeoman, GEO. JEMETT of Shiplake, yeoman, & NICHOLAS (HIGGS) since decd. Exors.

Suit concerning Dr. HIGGS's will & estate (abstract of Bill only).

*Answer* of GRIFFITH HIGGS, deft. (eldest son of BARTON HIGGS of S. Stoke & ELEANOR WHISTLER his wife). Recites the will, mentioning *inter alia*, "BARTON HIGGS" son of my brother BARTON HIGGS, of Southstoke. GRIFFITH HIGGS, son of my brother JOHN HIGGS. Eldest brother BARTON, & his wife, & GRIFFITH HIGGS, their eldest son.

SAMUEL AVERY is decd. & the debt not collected.

*Bridges, 134/23 and 133/29.*

**Higgs v. Higgs.**

*(Abstract.)*

A.D. 1698. 3 December.

*Orator* : WILLIAM HIGGS of Whitchurch, Co. Oxon, cordwainer, first of the name of WILLIAM, and 2<sup>nd</sup> son of MARY HIGGS, who was one of the daughters of ROGER YOUNG.





That Sr. WM. YOUNG being seised in fee of the Manor of Basseldon, Co. Berks, & being minded to settle same on relations bearing his christian name, by Will dated 16 Dec., 1618, devised same to said ROGER YOUNG, who was son of ROGER YOUNG, the uncle of the said Sr. WM., & to such of his issue as should bear the name of "WILLIAM". ANNE the wife of said Sr. WM. to enjoy same for her life. Sr. WM. YOUNG soon after died & the said ROGER YOUNG your orator's grandfather entered said Manor, & soon after died, leaving no sons, but only three daughters, JANE, MARY & ISSIDA. JANE & ISSIDA died without issue, & MARY who was your orator's mother had three sons, JAMES her eldest, WM. your orator her second, & JOHN her youngest son, & three daughters, MARY, MARTHA & ANNE. ANNE the relict of said Sr. WM. is dead, & your orator is the *only issue & relation of the testator whose name is William, & should inherit said Manor.* Your orator's brother JAMES, pretends title to said premises.

*Bridges, 133/29.*

*Defendants:* JAMES HIGGS, ISAACK MATTHEWS, THOMAS BUCKERIDGE & THOMAS NOBES.

Plea and Demurrer of ISAAC MATHEW & THOMAS NOBES. That ROGER YOUNG was seised of a mess. called "Coles", parcel of the Manor of Basseldon, & conveyed same to WM. MATHEW, deft's father, & no claim has been made by JAMES HIGGS, plaintiff's father, decd. Plea of THOMAS BUCKERIDGE. That ROGER YOUNG & IZADORE his then wife, granted certain premises to THOMAS BUCKERIDGE, gent., this deft's grandfather.

Complt. & others exhibited a Bill in the Court of Exchequer.

*Bridges, 134/23.*

#### Higgs v. Higgs & others.

1698. 3 December.

To the Right Honourable JOHN, LORD SOMERS, Baron of Evesham, Lord High Chancellor of England.

Humbly complaining, sheweth unto your lordship your orator WILLIAM HIGGS of Whitechurch, Co. Oxon, cordwainer, first of the name of "WILLIAM" and second son of MARY HIGGS who was one of the daughters of ROGER YOUNGE, deceased. That SIR WILLIAM YOUNG being seized in fee of the Manor of Basseldon (Basildon) Co. Berks., did by his last Will dated the 16th of December 1618 (and proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury 1619, Register "Parker", fo. 21) give unto the said ROGER YOUNG, who was son of ROGER YOUNG, the uncle of the said SIR WILLIAM YOUNG, the said Manor of Basseldon, to him and his heirs upon condition that the said ROGER YOUNG should not give, or bestow the same, to any of his sons, but only to such as his christian name should be called "WILLIAM", and so successively to such of his issue lawfully begotten as should be of that name "WILLIAM" with a proviso that ANNE, his wife, should enjoy the same during the term of her natural life. That the said SIR WILLIAM YOUNG soon after died and the LADY ANNE YOUNG his widow and relict duly proved his said will by which the said ROGER YOUNG your orator's grandfather, was intitled, and entered upon the said manor, and took the rents and profits thereof during his life and died, having no son of his body but three daughters, viz:—JANE, MARY & ISSIDA. The said JANE and ISSIDA died without issue and MARY, who was your orator's mother, had three sons JAMES, her eldest son, WILLIAM being your orator, her second son, and JOHN her youngest son, and three daughters MARY, MARTHA and ANNE. That the said ANNE the relict of the said SIR WILLIAM YOUNG is since dead, and your orator is the *only issue and relation of the said testator whose christian name is "William"* and your orator hoped to have quietly enjoyed the said manor, and to have taken the rents, issues and profits thereof. But now so it is, may it please your lordship, that the said JAMES your orator's elder brother, ISAACK MATTHEWES, THOMAS BUCKERIDGE and THOMAS NOKES, combining and confederating themselves together, he the said JAMES pretends title to the premises under HUMPHREY YOUNG, the said ROGER YOUNG's elder brother, and that the said ROGER YOUNG did grant the same to the said HUMPHREY YOUNG, and his heirs, and that the said HUMPHREY did give or grant the same to his widow and relict, and to WILLIAM DAVIS, or one of them did grant the same to RICHARD ALLEN and GRIFFITH ALLEN, and





their heirs who sold part thereof to the father of the said ISAAC MATTHEWS, and his heirs, another part to THOMAS BUCKERIDGE, and another part to THOMAS NOKES and his heirs.

And the defendants upon these pretences do refuse to give to your orator possession of the said premises but commit great waste upon the same all which doings are contrary to right equity and good conscience. In tender consideration whereof may it please your lordship to grant unto your orator a writ or writs of subpena to be directed unto the said JAMES HIGGS, ISAACK MATTHEWS, THOMAS BUCKERIDGE and THOMAS NOKES, thereby commanding them to appear in court and there to make answer to the premises and further to stand and abide such order and decree as to your lordship shall seem meet. And your orator shall ever pray, etc.

(Signed) JOHN WELBORE.

The following tabulation gathered from this suit in Chancery and from the wills of JAMES HIGGS of Whitchurch, JAMES HIGGS his son who settled at Aldermaston, Co. Berks, and became the ancestor of many HIGGSSES of that place, and of WILLIAM HIGGS, cordwainer of Whitchurch, the younger brother of JAMES of Aldermaston is of interest. Apparently WILLIAM HIGGS won his case.

#### CHANCERY PROCEEDINGS, 1714-1758.

(Abstracts.)

##### Higgs v. Bartholomew.

358/17.

1714. 7 February.

*Orator* : CHARLES HIGGS of Cliffords Inn, London, Gent. Concerning an agreement as to the office of Attorney of the Court of the Palace of Westminster *v.* the Court of the Marshalsey held by JOHN HOLLOWAY and assignment of business to your orator.

##### Eddowes v. Higgs.

1310/19.

1714. 3 November.

*Orator & Oratrix* : RALPH EDDOWES of Whitchurch, Co. Salop, ironmonger and ELIANOR his wife. That RICHARD HIGGS of Cotton Hill, one of the suburbs of Shrewsbury, owned a messuage with appurtenances at Mitton in the parish of Hitts (?), Co. Salop. Mortgage.

##### Higgs v. Rudd.

1420/21.

1720. 24 December.

*Orator & Oratrix* : JOHN HIGGS of Rocks Green, Co. Salop, yeoman, and ANNE his wife, one of the daughters of JOHN EVANS late of Bitterley Co. Salop, yeoman deceased. His relict JOYCE married EDWARD RUDD of Middleton. Suit concerning legacies.

##### Hall v. Higgs.

1186/14.

1721. 5 July.

*Orator* : RANDOLPH HALL of Greens Norton, Co. Northampton victualler. EDWARD HIGGS of Hampstead, vintner, married BRIDGET daughter of JOHN MASON, late of Maidford Co. Northampton. Suit concerning the estate of JOHN MASON.

##### Higgs v. Rawlins.

2536/32.

1721. 17 December.

*Orator* : CHARLES HIGGS of Grayes Inn, Co. Middlesex, gent. Suit *re* Mortgage of Messuage at Charing Cross, London.





PEDIGREE of YOUNG of BASILDON, showing Marriage of the co-heir of ROGER to JAMES HIGGS

THOMAS HIGGS of WHITCHURCH  
mentioned in the Will of  
RICHARD HIGGS of WEST-  
RIDGE, par. of STRENTLEY BERKS  
(probably a brother who died  
in 1573) he died 1586.

THOMAS YOUNG Gentleman (? of SOUTHERY MANOR  
A Justice of the Common Pleas & the EAST HANNEY  
King's Bench descended from an influen- CO. BERKS.  
tial family of Merchants in BRISTOL. Vide THE GORING  
Co. GLOUCESTER Vide MSS. Rev. D<sup>r</sup> FIELD Warden  
of HALEY COLLEGE OXFORD (READING LIBRARY) CHARTERS  
CCCCXX. 20 MAY 1070

ROGER YOUNGE Gentleman of BASILDON  
born in 1493, he held a Commission of  
the Peace for BERKSHIRE for Sixty years,  
he bestowed a part of his demesne lands  
on JOHN BUCKERIDGE whose father JOHN  
BUCKERIDGE had held a Messuage there  
in 1501 of one JOHN COWFOLD (Field MSS)  
he died in 1589 aged 96

SIR WILLIAM YOUNGE <sup>KNT</sup> of the Manor of BASILDON died in LONDON in 1618 Will dated 1618 & pr. 1619

ANNE No Issue

HUMPHREY YOUNG Gentleman of BASILDON

ROGER YOUNG "of BASILDON

(PCC "PARKER" fo 21) he left his Estate after LADY ANNE'S decease to ROGER son of his Uncle ROGER YOUNG and "to his heirs who were called "WILLIAM"

From the above family of HIGGS long settled in WILLCURCH was with little doubt descended -

MARY YOUNG  
Will proved Arch. Oxon.  
Act Bk "B" fo 337.

JANE YOUNG = RO  
HO  
AM YOUNG *No Issue*

mar at  
BRADFELD  
to BFRAS  
5 NOV 1612

ELIZABETH  
.....  
*She was bur. at*  
*ALDERMASTON*  
29 JUNE 1713

JOHN  
HIGGS  
to whom  
his  
brother  
WILLIAM  
left £10

HEIR TO THE MANOR OF BASILDON AND LAND IN BRADFIELD  
ASHAMPSTEAD AND PANGBOURNE UNDER THE WILL OF SIR WILLIAM YOUNG  
Vide: Case in Chancery 24 Oct. 1661 HIGGS et al v. FANE, ALLEN and  
BUCKERIDGE

JAMES  
HIGGS

M=MARY

MARY

ELIZABETH

MAY 17 10  
CH OXON. 03315





**Harries v. Higgs.**

44/24.

1722. 31 January.

*Answer* of JOHN HIGGS, the elder & JOHN HIGGS, the younger to the Bill of SAMUEL HARRIES, gent. concerning a lease of property and covenants ; situation not described.

**Higgs v. Molyneux.**

2586/20.

1723. 22 August.

*Answer* of THOMAS MOLYNEUX to Bill of WILLIAM HIGGS gentleman. Concerning the affairs of " Charitable corporation " etc.

**Higgs v. Strangways.**

1749/53.

1724. 7 December.

*Orator* : WILLIAM HIGGS of Westminster, Middlesex, Gent. *re*—Charitable Corporation for the Relief of Industrious poor etc.

**Higgs v. Gordan.**

1751/30.

1725. 9 October.

*Orator* : WILLIAM HIGGS of St. Martin in the Fields, Co. Middlesex, Gentleman, *re* - Charitable Corporation.

**Higgs v. Meres.**

332/11.

1729. 22 October.

*Orator* : WILLIAM HIGGS concerning a Corporation stiled the Charitable Corporation for the Relief of the Industrious Poor—by assisting them with small sums upon pledges at legal interest ; floated 1705. (Long Bill.)

**Higgs v. Higgs.**

1318/72.

1729. 24 November.

*Oratrixes* : MARY and REBECCA HIGGS, only children of JOHN HIGGS, late of South Stoke, Co. Oxon., yeoman deceased by MARY his first wife, who was daughter of WILLIAM HARDING of Turner's Court in the parish of Bensington Co. Oxon. Suit regarding the Marriage Settlement.

(*Note*.—In Chapter III a photograph of this original Marriage Settlement between WILLIAM HARDING and THOMAS his son and JOHN HIGGS of South Stoke is given.)

**Newcombe or Newcome v. Higgs.**

1142/40.

1730. 13 August.

*Orator* : THOMAS NEWCOME of Birmingham Co. Warwick, pattenwood maker. Orator was chosen Parish Clerk and Sexton of the Parish of St. Phillip, Birmingham. WILLIAM HIGGS, Clerk, rector of the said parish caused your orator to serve him as a servant without wages etc.

**Newcome v. Higgs.**

1212/13.

1714-58. (No date.)

*Answer* of WILLIAM HIGGS, clerk. That complainant was employed as Parish clerk of St. Phillips and was also to perform duties for this defendant. He detained money he had collected.





**Norton v. Higgs.**

83/25.

1730. 17 November.

*Orators* : THOMAS NORTON, JOSEPH ROBERTSON and JOSEPH ROGERS, all of the parish of St. Anne, Westminster Co. Middlesex. CHARLES HIGGS of Hampstead Co. Middlesex, Esquire, has collected rents of your orators as exor., of SIR GABRIEL ROBERTS deceased. Question of right to collect etc.

**Gressingham v. Higgs.**

368/65.

1731. 2 January.

*Orator* : THOMAS GRASINGHAM of Leighton Bussard Co. Bedford, gentleman. In Michas. Term 1715 your orator's late father THOMAS GRASINGHAM deceased exhibited his Bill in this Hon. Court against BARTHOLOMEW HIGGS of Henley-on-Thames Co. Oxford, and AGNES his wife. Orator's father and BARTHOLOMEW HIGGS, since deceased. Bill of revivor.

*Defendant* : AGNES HIGGS.

**Higgs v. Careless.**

861/34.

1737. 16 December.

*Orator* : RICHARD HIGGS of Higley Co. Salop, Clerk and MARY his wife, late MARY HIGGS, widow and relict of WILLIAM HIGGS late of Birmingham, Clerk, deceased. Bill of Revivor of former Suit. Attorney General v. CARELESS concerning the Will of the said WILLIAM HIGGS deceased.

**Goodricke v. Higgs.**

2189/12.

1742. 26 November.

*Orator* : HENRY GOODRICKE of St. Andrews, Holborn Co. Middlesex, one of the sons of HARCOURT GOODRICKE, late of the Inner Temple, Esquire, who appointed CHARLES HIGGS, then of Clifford's Inn, London, but afterwards of St. Ann's Westminster gentleman, deceased, and another person executors of his will. The said HIGGS survived the other executor. Suit *re*--the Estate of HARCOURT GOODRICKE.

*Defendants* : HEPTZIBAH HIGGS, AMIATIA HIGGS and EDWARD BROOKSBY.

**Higgs v. Leadham.**

1635/27.

1749. 19 October.

*Orator* : JOSEPH HIGGS of Birmingham, Co. Warwick, Surgeon and Apothecary. Doctor's Bill for attending THOMAS LEADHAM's wife and money borrowed.

**Herbert v. Higgs.**

2132/11.

1750. 30 January.

*Answer* of JOHN HIGGS and MARY his wife, and HENRY JOYCE and ANNE his wife, WILLIAM MASON, ANN MASON, MARY MASON and WILLIAM MASON HERBERT complainants.

WILLIAM MASON, late of Theydon Bois Co. Essex, grandfather of the defendants, MARY HIGGS and ANN JOYCE. Will and Estate of the said WILLIAM MASON.





## APPRENTICESHIP INDENTURES.

(This list supplied by the Society of Genealogists, 5, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C.)

1640. 1 July.

JOHN, son of RICHARD HIGGS of Ivington Co. Gloucester, yeoman,  
*Apprenticed to*  
The Drapers' Company, London.

1711/12. 2 February.

ARTHUR, son of THOMAS HIGGS of West End, Parish of Wickwarr, Co. Gloucester  
(near Horton and Chipping Sodbury), carrier,

*Apprenticed to*  
WILLIAM WINSTONE of Chipping Sodbury, Co. Gloucester (blacksmith).  
In consideration of £5. Inl. 1/42, 47.

1716. 3 September.

MICHAEL, son of SAMUEL HIGGS, Citizen & Glazier,  
*Apprenticed to*

THOMAS COX, Citizen and Barber Surgeon.  
In consideration of £10. Inl. 1/5, 192.

1716. 9 October.

JOSEPH, son of JOHN HIGGS of Eversham, Co. Worcester, Gentleman,  
*Apprenticed to*

JOHN BAYLIS of Tewkesbury, Co. Gloucester, Apothecary.  
In consideration of £40. Inl. 1/5, 35.

1717. 18 February.

EDWARD, son of WILLIAM HIGGS of St. Giles, Co. Middlesex, Vintner,  
*Apprenticed to*

GEORGE NIX, Citizen and Joiner.  
In consideration of £30. Inl. 1/6, 33.

1717. (?).

JAMES, son of THOMAS HIGGS, Citizen & Apothecary,  
*Apprenticed to*

RICHARD GLYN, Citizen and Clockmaker.  
In consideration of £25. Inl. 1/6, 22.

1718. 19 June.

THOMAS HIGGS of Stockton, Co. Salop,  
*Apprenticed to*

JOHN GOULD of Claverley, Co. Salop (Locksmith).  
In consideration of £4.12.0. Inl. 1/6, 82.

1721. 1 December.

THOMAS, son of RICHARD HIGGS of Mitton, Co. Salop,  
*Apprenticed to*

THOMAS WINN of Shrewsbury, Grocer.  
In consideration of £38. Inl. 1/47, 202.

1721. 9 June.

MARTHA, daughter of THOMAS HIGGS, deceased,  
*Apprenticed to*

ELIZABETH PITTS of St. Bartholomew-the-Less (Semstress).  
In consideration of £25. Inl. 1/8, 159.

1724. 3 February.

WILLIAM, son of JOHN HIGGS deceased,  
*Apprenticed to*

RICHARD GAWTHORNE, Citizen and Draper.  
Inconsideration of £30. Inl. 1/10, 129.





1725. 13 July.

MOSES, son of MOSES HIGGS of Henley-on-Thames, Co. Oxon,

*Apprenticed to*

JOHN ARNOLD, Citizen and Distiller.

In consideration of £40.

Inl. 1/10, 211.

1736. 15 November.

SAMUEL HIGGS,

*Apprenticed to*

EDMOND PEMBRUGE of Campden, Co. Gloucester (Attorney).

In consideration of £100.0.0.

Inl. 1/14, 212.

1737. 3 December.

JOHN, son of THOMAS HIGGS, Citizen and Apothecary,

*Apprenticed to*

NATHANIEL LANE, Citizen and Poulterer.

In consideration of £10.0.0.

Inl. 1/15, 131.

1741. 9 June.

LEWIS, son of JOSEPH HIGGS,

*Apprenticed to*

JOSEPH SIMES of Wootton Underedge, Co. Gloucester (Tailor).

In consideration of £10.0.0.

Inl. 1/16, 62.

1741. 14 July.

GEORGE, son of CHRISTOPHER HIGGS,

*Apprenticed to*

DANIEL HIGGS of Chipping Sodbury, Co. Gloucester (Cordwainer).

In consideration of £5.0.0.

Inl. 1/16, 74.

1750. 22 March.

THOMAS, son of WILLIAM HIGGS,

*Apprenticed to*

DANIEL GREEN of Wootton-under-Edge, Co. Gloucester (Tailor).

In consideration of £3.3.0.

Inl. 1/51, 48.

1755. 20 September.

DANIEL HIGGS,

*Apprenticed to*

JOHN SKEATTS of Chippenham, Co. Wilts (Collar Maker).

In consideration of £10.0.0.

Inl. 1/20, 128.

1757. 15 August.

GRACE HIGGS.

*Apprenticed to*

ANN ROMMIEU &amp; Co. of Stroud, Co. Gloucester (Seamstress).

In consideration of £5.5.0.

Inl. 1/21, 82.

1758. 17 August.

WILLIAM HIGGS,

*Apprenticed to*

JAMES CAMBRIDGE of Wootton-under-Edge, Co. Gloucester (Carpenter).

In consideration of £10.0.0.

Inl. 1/53, 89.

1760. 24 November.

JOSIAH HIGGS,

*Apprenticed to*

SAMUEL WEBB of Chipping Sodbury, Co. Gloucester (Baker).

In consideration of £2.10.0.

Inl. 1/54, 48.





CALENDAR OF HIGGS WILLS AND ADMINSTRATIONS IN THE PROBATE  
REGISTRY, LONDON—PREROGATIVE COURT OF CANTERBURY.

HIGGS, HIGGES, HIGGE, HIGS, ETC., 1483-1797.

*Those marked by an asterisk have been examined in the preparation of this work.*  
(Arranged in alphabetical order, chronologically under each baptismal name.)

Will or administration.	Date.	Baptismal name.	Place of abode or county.	Reference.
Ad.	— 1649.	ALICE HIGGS ( <i>alias</i> PLUMER).	Gloucester.	Admon. 84.
*Will.	July, 1658.	ANTHONY HIGG.	Middlesex.	Wotton 367.
Will.	Jan., 1776.	AMECITIA HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Bellas 17.
Ad.	Oct., 1690.	ANNE HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.
Will.	Sept., 1737.	ANNE HIGGS.	Surrey.	Wake 207.
*Will.	Sept., 1775.	ANNE HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Alexander 345.
*Will.	Oct., 1690.	BARTON HIGGS.	Oxon (S. Stoke)	Dyke 154.
*Will.	Jan., 1778.	BENJAMIN HIGGS.	London.	Hay 18 & 199.
Will.	Jan., 1728.	CASTOR HIGGS.	London.	Brook 14.
Ad.	Mar., 1742.	CHARLES HIGGS, Esqre.	Middlesex.	Admon.
Ad.	Feb., 1750.	CHARLES HIGGS, Esqre.	Middlesex.	Admon.
Ad.	Jan., 1685.	CHRISTOPHER HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon. 6.
*Will.	— 1633.	CLEMENT HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Russell 110.
Will.	—	CLEMENT HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Seager 106.
Ad.	Feb., 1685.	EDWARD HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon. 25.
Ad.	Sept., 1697.	EDWARD HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon.
Will.	Sept. 1697.	EDWARD HIGGS.	Pts.	No reference.
Ad.	Feb., 1706.	EDWARD HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon.
*Will.	Oct., 1723.	EDWARD HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Richmond 298.
Ad.	Dec., 1737.	EDWARD HIGGS.	Surrey.	Admon.
*Will.	June, 1782.	EDWARD HIGGS.	Service Middlesex.	Gostling 288.
*Will.	April, 1676.	ELEANOR HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Bence 38.
Will.	Aug., 1734.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.	Warwick.	Oakham 182.
Will.	Nov., 1750.	ELIZABETH HIGGES.	Middlesex.	Greenly 356.
Will.	July, 1771.	ELIZABETH HIGGS.	Surrey.	Trevor 299.
Will.	Nov., 1760.	FRANCIS HIGGS.	Service Pts.	Lynch 426.
*Will.	Sept., 1765.	FRANCIS HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Rushworth 322.
Will.	July, 1784.	FRANCIS HIGGS.	Service Pts.	Rockingham 390.
Ad.	April, 1758.	GEORGE HIGGS.	Surrey.	Admon.
*Will.	— 1608.	GRIFFITH HIGGES.	Oxon (S. Stoke).	Windebank 11.
*Will.	Mar., 1660.	GRIFFITH HIGGS (Dr.)	Oxon (S. Stoke).	Nabbs 8.
*Ad.	Nov., 1664.	GRIFFITH HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon.
Will.	Nov., 1681.	HELEN HIGGS.	Surrey.	North 165.
Ad.	Nov., 1647.	HENRY HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon. 165.
Ad.	Nov., 1768.	HENRY HIGGS.	London.	Admon.
Ad.	July, 1765.	HENRY HIGGS.	Service Pts.	Admon.
*Will.	Sept., 1754.	HEPHIZIBAH HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Pinfold 251.
*Will.	Sept., 1742.	JAMES HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Frenley 273.
Will.	Jan., 1758.	JAMES HIGGS.	Pts.	Hutton 14.
*Will.	Feb., 1777.	JAMES HIGGS.	Oxford.	Collier 70.
Will.	Jan., 1744.	JEREMIAH HIGGS.	Pts.	Seymer 15.
*Ad.	April, 1582.	JOHN HIGGS.	Berks (Basildon).	Admon.
Will.	June, 1647.	JOHN HIGGES.	Oxford.	Fines 134.
Ad.	— 1648.	JOHN HIGGS.	Chester.	Admon. 146.
Ad.	— 1651.	JOHN HIGGS.	Gloucester.	Admon. 200.
Ad.	Mar., 1653.	JOHN HIGGS.	Middlesex.	I, 97.
Will.	June, 1654.	JOHN HIGGS.	Wiltshire.	Alchin 234.
Ad.	Oct., 1656.	JOHN HIGGS.	Salop.	Admon. 247.
Ad.	Jan., 1658.	JOHN HIGGS.	Oxford.	Admon. 5.
Ad.	Sept., 1663.	JOHN HIGGS.	—	Admon.





Will or administration.	Date.	Baptismal name.	Place of abode or county.	Reference.
*Will.	May, 1665.	JOHN HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Hyde 49.
*Will.	Sept., 1670.	JOHN HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Penn 120.
Will.	Feb., 1686.	JOHN HIGGS.	Surrey	Lloyd 17.
*Will.	July, 1693.	JOHN HIGGS.	London.	Coker 111.
*Will.	Oct., 1699.	JOHN HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Pett 165.
Ad.	July, 1703.	JOHN HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Admon.
Ad.	July, 1706.	JOHN HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon.
Will.	April, 1724.	JOHN HIGGS.	Bucks.	Bolton 84.
Will.	Feb., 1729.	JOHN HIGGS.	Worcester.	Abbott 46.
Will.	Nov., 1729.	JOHN HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Abbott 303.
Will.	Jan., 1734.	JOHN HIGGS.	Surrey.	Oakham 10.
Ad.	June, 1741.	JOHN HIGGS.	London.	Admon.
Ad.	Jan., 1747.	JOHN HIGGS.	London.	Admon.
Ad.	April, 1749.	JOHN HIGGS.	Worcester.	Admon.
*Will.	Sept., 1751.	JOHN HIGGES.	Middlesex.	Busby 259.
*Will.	Mar., 1752.	JOHN HIGGES.	London.	Bettesworth 67.
Will.	— 1757.	JOHN HIGGES.	London.	Herring 328.
*Will.	June, 1765.	JOHN HIGGS, Esqre.	Middlesex.	Rushworth 220.
Ad.	Aug., 1756.	JOHN HIGG.	Kent.	Admon.
*Will.	Dec., 1779.	JOHN HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Warburton 499.
*Will.	May, 1782.	JOHN HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Gostling 232.
Will.	Feb., 1756.	JOSEPH HIGGS.	Warwick.	Glazier 41.
Will.	— 1794.	JOSEPH HIGGS.	Middlesex.	—
Ad.	Oct., 1704.	JANE HIGGS.	Radnor.	Admon.
Will.	Jan., 1772.	JANE HIGGS.	Essex.	Taverner 14.
Ad.	Mar., 1698.	LAWRENCE HIGGS.	London.	Admon.
Will.	Nov., 1708.	LAWRENCE HIGGS.	Gloucester.	Barrett 252.
*Will.	Jan., 1780.	MATHEW HIGGS.	Gloucester.	Collins 21.
*Will.	July, 1728.	MOSES HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Brook 211.
Ad.	July, 1669.	MARY HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Admon. 76.
Ad.	Feb., 1697.	MARY HIGGS ( <i>alias</i> EVERARD).	Middlesex.	Admon.
*Will.	June, 1760.	MARY HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Lynch 240.
Will.	Nov., 1768.	MARY HIGGS.	Warwick.	Secker 413.
Will.	Mar., 1776.	MARY HIGGS.	Warwick.	Bellas 125.
*Will.	Feb., 1797.	MARY HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Exeter 93.
*Will.	Sept., 1673.	MARGARET HIGGS.	Berkshire (Thatcham).	Pye 114.
Ad.	Sept., 1695.	NATHANIEL HIGGS.	London.	Admon.
Ad.	April, 1750.	NATHANIEL HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Admon.
*Will.	— 1595.	NICHOLAS HIGGES.	—	Scott 78.
*Will.	Mar., 1665.	NICHOLAS HIGGS.	London.	Hyde 26.
*Will.	April, 1666.	NICHOLAS HIGGS.	Berks (Thatcham).	Mico 59.
Will.	Jan., 1770.	PETER HIGGS.	London.	Jenner 16.
Ad.	Dec., 1783.	PETER HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon.
*Will.	Feb., 1661.	RALPH HIGGS (sen.).	Berkshire.	May 25.
*Will.	Feb., 1661.	RALPH HIGGS (jun.).	Berkshire.	May 25.
Will.	— 1602.	RICHARD HIGGS.	—	Montague 25.
*Will.	— 1606.	RICHARD HIGGES, HIGGES or HIGGE.	—	Stafforde 33.
*Will.	— 1612.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Norton, Glo'ster.	Fenner 43.
Will.	Aug., 1625.	RICHARD HIGGS.	—	Clark 82.
Ad.	— 1631.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Essex.	Folio 146.
Ad.	— 1631 3.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Folio 164.
*Will.	— 1648.	RICHARD HIGGE.	Essex.	Essex 52.
Ad.	July, 1662.	RICHARD HIGGS.	London.	(Lost.)
Will.	Nov., 1684.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Warwick.	Hare 148.
Will.	Oct., 1712.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Barnes 189.
Ad.	Feb., 1716.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Warwick.	Admon.





Will or administration.	Date.	Baptismal name.	Place of abode or county.	Reference.
Ad.	Dec., 1729.	RICHARD HIGGS.	London.	Admon.
*Will.	May, 1756.	RICHARD HIGGS (Rev.).	Salop.	Glazier 140.
Ad.	Nov., 1759.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon.
Ad.	June, 1760.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.
Will.	Sept., 1761.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Southton.	Cheslyn 381.
Will.	May, 1764.	RICHARD HIGGS.	London.	Simpson 181.
*Will.	Oct., 1782.	RICHARD HIGGS.	Southton.	Gostling 499.
Ad.	Feb., 1749.	ROBERT HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.
Ad.	Jan., 1760.	ROBERT HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.
*Will.	— 1601.	ROGER HIGGS	Worcestershire.	Woodhall 32.
*Will.	— 1610.	ROGER HIGGES.	Banbury, Oxon.	Wingfield 90.
*Will.	— 1613.	ROGER HIGGES.	Berkshire.	Capel 20.
*Ad.	Oct., 1679.	ROGER HIGGS, Esqre.	Salop.	Admon.
*Will.	April, 1681.	ROGER HIGGS.	Middlesex.	North 59.
*Will.	May, 1728.	REBECCA HIGGS.	Oxon.	Brook 149.
*Will.	April, 1743.	SAMUEL HIGGS.	London.	Boycott 115.
*Will.	Mar., 1761.	SAMUEL HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Cheslyn 97.
Will.	June, 1763.	SAMUEL HIGGS.	Surrey.	Casar 283.
Will.	Jan., 1794.	SAMUEL HIGGS.	Surrey.	Holman 23.
Will.	Oct., 1705.	STEPHEN HIGGS.	Pts.	Gee 202.
Ad.	Mar., 1880.	SARAH HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.
Will.	April, 1748.	SUSANNAH HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Strahan 117.
*Will.	— 1588/9.	THOMAS HIGGES.	Glo'ster (Cheltenham)	Leister 38.
*Will.	— 1591.	THOMAS HIGGES, gent.	Halford, Salop.	Sainberbe 79.
Ad.	April, 1612.	THOMAS HIGGS.	London.	Folio 58.
*Will.	— 1614.	THOMAS HIGGES, gent.	Halford, Salop.	Lawe 54.
—	— 1616.	THOMAS HIGGS.	—	No reference.
*Will.	— 1637.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Goare 133.
Ad.	— 1649.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Hereford.	Admon. 108.
Will.	Apr., 1655.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Worcester.	Aylett 343.
Ad.	Nov., 1657.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Bucks.	Admon. 285.
*Will.	Oct., 1663.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Juxon 120.
*Will.	Dec., 1663.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Juxon 146.
Will.	1672.	THOMAS HIGGES.	Gloucester (Coles- bourne).	Eure 16.
*Will.	June, 1679.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Salop.	King 70.
Will.	June, 1699.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Pts.	Pett 93.
Will.	May, 1704.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Radnor.	Asli 107.
Ad.	Dec., 1705.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon.
Ad.	Oct., 1709.	THOMAS HIGGS <i>alias</i> HICKS.	Pts.	Admon.
Ad.	Feb., 1711.	THOMAS HIGGS.	London.	Admon.
Ad.	Oct., 1712.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.
Will.	April, 1715.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Lincoln.	Fagg 69.
Ad.	Aug., 1716.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon.
Will.	Mar., 1723.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Herts.	Richmond 51.
Ad.	June, 1726.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Southton.	Admon.
Ad.	July, 1728.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Surrey.	Admon.
Will.	Jan., 1736.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Surrey.	Derby 11.
Will.	Feb., 1737.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Surrey.	Wake 28.
*Will.	June, 1746.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Edmunds 179.
*Will.	Sept., 1760.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Lynch 358.
Will.	May, 1763.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Pts.	Casar 231.
*Will.	Mar., 1768.	THOMAS HIGGS.	London.	Secker 110.
*Will.	July, 1768.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Oxford.	Secker 281.
Ad.	April, 1778.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Admon.
Will.	Nov., 1778.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Service Surrey.	Hay 451.
Will.	July, 1778.	THOMAS HIGGS <i>alias</i> HICKS.	Service.	Rockingham 390.





Will or administration.	Date.	Baptismal name.	Place of abode or county.	Reference.
Will.	July, 1784.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Monarch Pts.	Rockingham 451.
*Will.	April, 1792.	THOMAS HIGGS.	Oxford.	Fountain 218.
*Will.	Aug., 1699.	TOBIAS HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Pett 133.
*Will.	Dec., 1776.	TOOVEY HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Bellas 495.
Ad.	Dec., 1680.	URSULA HIGGS.	Gloucester.	Admon.
*Ad.	Oct., 1669.	WALTER HIGGS.	Thatcham, Berks.	Admon.
*Ad.	Nov., 1691.	WALTER HIGGS.	Thatcham, Berks.	De non mon Oct., 1669.
*Will.	— 1614.	WILLIAM HIGGES.	Colesbourne, Glo'ster.	Lawe 90.
Will.	Mar., 1627.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	—	Skinner 30.
*Will.	— 1633.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Oxford.	Russell 45.
Will.	Mar., 1646.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Leicester.	Turse 35.
Ad. {	June, 1646. }	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Oxford.	Ad. 61 and 65.
Ad. {	July, 1646. }			
*Will.	— 1651.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Grey 25.
*Will.	— 1657.	WILLIAM HIGGES.	Berkshire.	Ruthven 497.
*Will.	May, 1658.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Wotton 244.
Ad.	Oct., 1709.	WILLIAM HIGGS <i>alias</i> HICKES.	Pts.	Admon.
Ad.	April, 1710.	WILLIAM HIGGS <i>alias</i> HICKES.	Bristol.	Admon.
*Will.	July, 1722.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	London.	Marlborough 138.
Will.	Nov., 1724.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Stafford.	Bolton 246.
Ad.	Jan., 1730.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Pts.	Admon.
*Will.	April, 1746.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Edmunds 119.
Ad.	Aug., 1749.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.
*Will.	— 1749.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Lisle 219.
Ad.	Sept., 1750.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Berkshire.	Admon.
Ad.	Dec., 1761.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	London.	Admon.
Ad.	Feb., 1762.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Pts. Middlesex.	Admon.
Ad.	Oct., 1766.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.
*Will.	Feb., 1767.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Legard 53.
*Will.	April, 1772.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	London.	Taverner 134.
Will.	April, 1773.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Essex.	Stevens 161.
Ad.	June, 1785.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.
Ad.	Nov., 1785.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Service Berks.	Admon.
Ad.	May, 1791.	WILLIAM HIGGS.	Middlesex.	Admon.





## CHAPTER XX

The Higgs Family of the Bermudas Islands, and later of  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

LYING in the Atlantic between the parallels of  $32^{\circ}$  and  $33^{\circ}$  N. latitude, and about 600 miles from the coast of the United States of America, are a group of islands—some 360 in number—of coral formation, of which about twenty are inhabited. Most of the land area fit for cultivation is in the five islands of Hamilton (or Bermuda), 13 miles long, St. George, St. David, Somerset and Ireland.

This group of islands were colonized by the British in 1612, and at first were called Somers Islands after SIR GEORGE SOMERS, an Elizabethan Seaman and Adventurer, who was born at Lyme Regis, Dorsetshire, in 1554, and who, in 1609, became one of the founders of the Virginia Company. It was on his voyage out to that Colony, in that year, he was shipwrecked on the Bermudas. He and his company, however, escaped to Virginia, having built small vessels, and he died the following year.

From the first colonization of the Bermudas a branch of the HIGGS family has been closely connected with the commercial, political and religious life in these islands—chiefly in connection with the island of St. George. In fact, it is stated, that more than one branch made their home in these islands—there being some of the name among the British troops in the earliest records when the British took possession in 1612, some of whose descendants may still reside here, or they may have become the ancestors of HIGGSES in the United States of America. The family of HIGGS, whose particular history is given in connection with the island of St. George, claim that their ancestors were not closely related to those HIGGSES whose names are recorded as being among the troops in 1612.

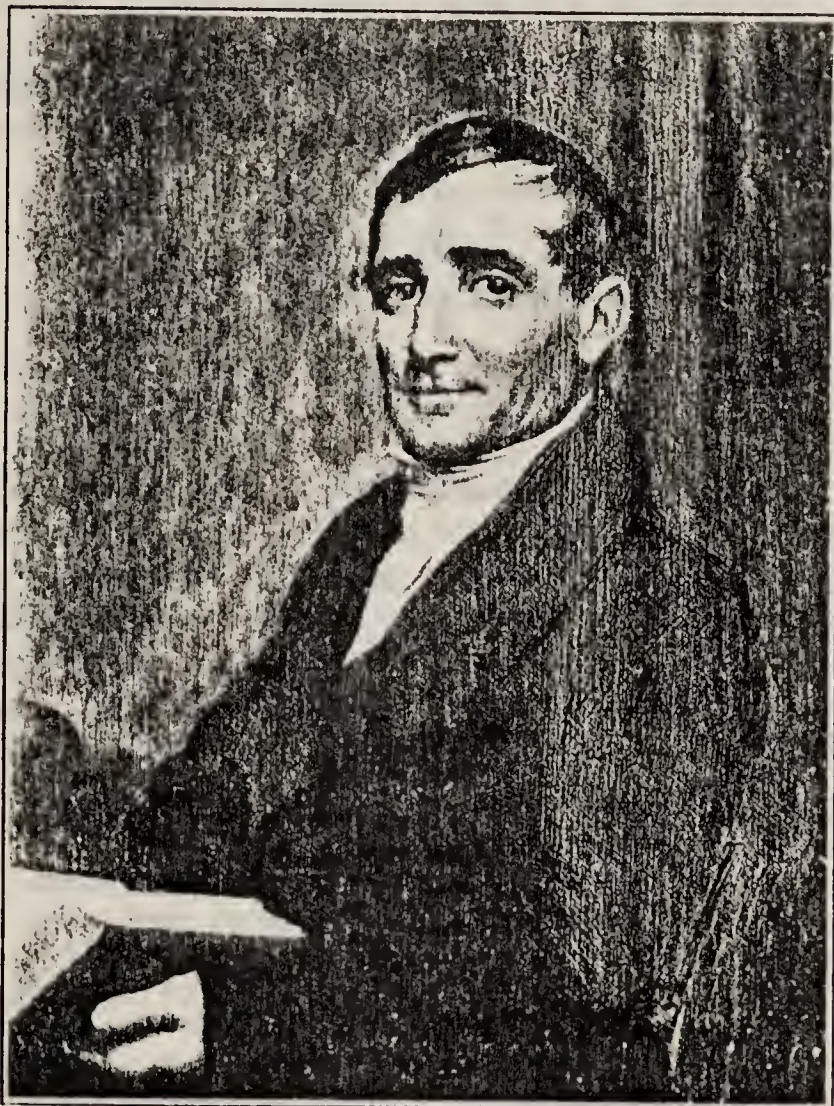
The most outstanding character in this particular family, resident at St. George's Island, was RICHARD MINORS HIGGS, a son of JEREMIAH and DOROTHY HIGGS, and a grandson of SAMUEL HIGGS, also of St. George, by REBECCA his wife. He was born 25 November, 1786, and became a great power for good in the island. The name of his father (baptized 9 April, 1758) "JEREMIAH" is significant, for in studying the contents of this work, upon the history of the HIGGSES in general, it will be found that only *thrice* does this baptismal name otherwise appear—namely in the Will recorded of one JEREMIAH HIGGS of H.M.S. "Torrington", proven in 1744, by JOSEPH CARTER of "Allfree Stoke" (Alverstoke) near Gosport, his "much esteemed friend" and sole exor. (no relatives mentioned) (P.C.C. "Seymer", fo. 15); in 1754, when one JEREMIAH was baptized at South Stoke, Oxon, the son of THOMAS and ANN HIGGS of that place, who also died there in 1766, when but 12 years of age; and at Coleshill in the county of Berks, when one JEREMIAH HIGGS married ANN ALLEN in 1795. The baptismal name of "SAMUEL", borne by the grandfather of RICHARD MINORS HIGGS, is likewise not frequently found, but was in use by the HIGGSES of South Stoke and also by those dwelling at Cheltenham in Gloucestershire. Why he was given the name of "MINORS" has not come to light. It may be that JEREMIAH HIGGS married a DOROTHY MINORS. This is the name of a very old Herefordshire family living at Treago in that county, and whose estates are





stated to have been in the family since the time of the Conquest ; the name of MYNORS or MINERS (de MINERHS) is to be found upon the so-called ' Roll of Battle Abbey '.

It will be noted that a JEREMIAH HIGGS, " A mariner, a vestryman, a juryman and a freeholder " is so recorded at St. George's Island in 1760, marrying on the 18 September of that year RUTH MARTLOCK, a widow. He was, probably, the great-grandfather of RICHARD MINORS HIGGS and RUTH MARTLOCK was his second wife.



*R. M. Higgs.*

RICHARD MINORS HIGGS, ESQ., M.C.P., OF ST. GEORGE'S, BERMUDA, 1786-1851.  
(From an oil portrait.)

RICHARD MINORS HIGGS carried on a large shipping business at St. George's Island. He was a man of strong character and fine personality ; brought up in the Anglican Church, but being a man of force, and accustomed to think for himself, he would not submit to the arrogance of the Bishop of his day, and so broke away from his Mother Church, and became a leader in Methodism. One history describes him as "*the father of Methodism in the West Indies*". His business took him quite frequently over to New York, a distance of about 600 miles, and when there on a Sunday he would preach in what is known as the "Old John Street Mission", and in this same Mission





Church JOHN WESLEY preached when he visited New York City. It is stated that the culmination of his break with the Anglican Church was when a Presbyterian minister was ordered arrested, and put into prison, by the Governor and the Bishop of the day, because he dared to preach to the slaves (the negro population of the Bermudas, who comprised about two-thirds of the inhabitants). This was more than RICHARD MINORS HIGGS could stand, and so he turned Methodist, and became a power in building up this church, preaching to the slaves himself, and to others who flocked to hear the message he had to give. He was indeed typical of many HIGGSES recorded within the pages of this work!

RICHARD MINORS HIGGS married a Miss RANKIN of St. George's Island, and by her had four sons and two daughters as follows :

1. BENJAMIN WILSON HIGGS, born 1820 (of whom later).
  2. THOMAS HIGGS.
  3. RICHARD HIGGS.
  4. Dr. HENRY HIGGS, who married and became the father of C. STANLEY HIGGS of Bermuda.
- (1) MARIA, who became the wife of the Rev. ROBERT DUNCAN.  
 (2) ARABELLA.

RICHARD MINORS HIGGS, the father of the above family, died on 2 September, 1851, and was buried at St. George's. Not only had he been stalwart in the cause of religious life in his community, but he had also taken a prominent part in political life, and at the early age of thirty-eight was elected a Member of the House of Assembly in Bermuda in the year 1824.

From 'Methodism in Eastern British America', by T. W. Smith (p. 478), is gathered the following interesting record of the life of RICHARD MINORS HIGGS, M.C.P. :

"The most prominent member of this little society was probably JOHN DARELL; but another, through his talents, public position, and longer life, became the representative man of Methodism in Bermuda. This was RICHARD M. HIGGS, Esquire. For many years he devoted his superior abilities and energies to the promotion of the cause of Christ. During that period, no man had more to do with the maintenance of the spiritual and financial interests of the Church in his native islands, than he. Inflexibly firm as a Methodist, and therefore the friend of all, and the enemy of none, he knew nothing of that foolish deference which has too often been paid in Bermuda to the self-asserted claims of the clerical representatives of a dominant Church. On the contrary, he wisely judged that the day had not passed when, for the defence and confirmation of the Gospel the independent course pursued by Paul towards the arbitrary magistrates of Philippi might not be followed with safety. In the light of a recent decision of the English Privy Council, respecting ecclesiastical titles, one instance illustrative of Mr. HIGGS's independence will be of interest. As a collector for the funds of the British and Foreign Bible Society, he called soon after the formation of a branch of that Society in Bermuda, among others, upon the Methodist Minister, whose contribution was duly credited upon the list to the Rev. WM. SUTCLIFFE. Soon after, he called upon an Episcopal Chaplain in the army, or navy. Mr. HIGGS, as the latter placed his own name upon the paper, garnished with the usual ministerial prefix, saw him glance over the list, and draw his pen through a word. On receiving the list, he found that the chaplain had attempted to erase the title allowed by courtesy to the Methodist Minister. Taking the pen, he immediately drew it through the similar title which the chaplain had prefixed to his own name. The latter, highly incensed, carried his complaint to the Governor, who desired Mr. HIGGS to wait upon him. At the time appointed, he presented himself before his Excellency, with whom he found the chaplain, and several of his friends. The Governor stated the chaplain's grievance. Mr. HIGGS, in reply, courteously informed his Excellency that he considered the matter to be beyond his jurisdiction, and referred the party aggrieved to the civil law. At the same time he informed the parties present that the civil law could do nothing in the case. 'The title "Reverend", he observed, 'is but one of courtesy. You regard the Episcopal clergyman as your minister, and speak





of him in a certain style ; I regard Mr. SUTCLIFFE as my minister, and speak of him in the same way.' The determined Methodist soon after left Government House having given small satisfaction to the aggrieved chaplain.

" In 1824 Mr. HIGGS was elected one of the representatives for the parish of St. George in the House of Assembly. That position he continued to hold for many years, during which he was the well-known advocate of every liberal measure for the public good.

" Towards the close of life some differences of opinion between himself and some other members of the Methodist Church at St. George's led him for a time to attend the services of the Church, from which in early life he had withdrawn ; but failing to find in these the assistance he needed, he returned to those of the Church of his adoption. He died September, 1851."

It would appear highly probable that whereas RICHARD MINORS HIGGS married one of the RANKIN family of St. George's, one of his sisters likewise married into the same family, for in the London 'Times' newspaper of 21 April, 1900, there appeared the following advertisement :

" RICHARD HIGGS RANKIN, who left Bermuda many years ago for the United States, where he worked in Collin's Shipyard, and who in 1852 went to Australia, and was last heard from when in Auckland, New Zealand, in 1871, is requested to COMMUNICATE forthwith, with the undersigned, in order that he may receive his share of his father's estate. The above-named person was at Port Jackson, N.S.W. and Port Denison, Queensland in 1864. Information is required whether the above named RICHARD HIGGS RANKIN is living, and if living of his present address, and if dead of the date and place of his death, and whether he left descendants who are now living, and if so, of their names and addresses.

" Information to be sent to the undersigned :

" SAMUEL CROFTS RANKIN,

" JOHN COX RANKIN,

" Executors of the Will of

GEORGE ROBERT RANKIN, deceased.

" St. George's, Bermuda, 17 January, 1900."

It may be that GEORGE ROBERT RANKIN was the father, or the brother, of the wife of RICHARD MINORS HIGGS.

### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I.

Off the coast of Nova Scotia lies the island known by the name of Prince Edward, which has become renowned the world over from its silver fox-breeding industry.

Early in the nineteenth century BENJAMIN WILSON HIGGS emigrated from the Islands of Bermudas, where he had been born in 1820, on St. George's Island, and settled at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

BENJAMIN WILSON HIGGS, who was born 6 June, 1820, succeeded to his father's business, and continued to carry on this shipping concern until he emigrated to Prince Edward Island, and took up his residence at Charlottetown. Like his father he represented St. George's in the Colonial Parliament. He married twice ; first to a Miss Outerbridge of St. George's, Bermuda, by whom he had two sons and two daughters :

1. RICHARD HIGGS.

2. ROBERT C. HIGGS.

(1) MARY.

(2) ELIZA, who became the wife of Mr. C. AUBEL.

After the decease of his first wife he married secondly AMELIA ARABELLA, sixth daughter of JOSEPH DARBY of Halifax, by MARY STEVENS, his wife. She had been born at Sable Island, on 5 July, 1833, and long survived her husband (who was buried

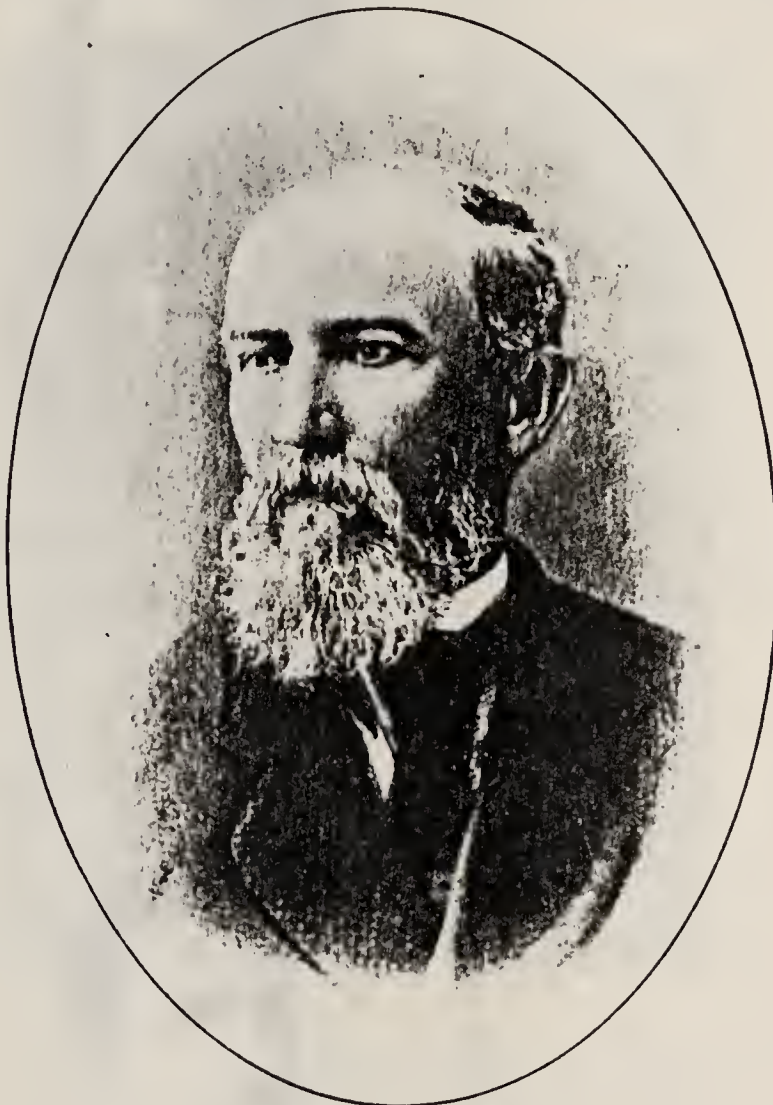




at Charlottetown, P.E.I.), by whom she had four sons and three daughters. She passed away 2 April, 1922, at Victoria, British Columbia, and was buried there.

The four sons and three daughters of BENJAMIN WILSON HIGGS by his second wife AMELIA ARABELLA DARBY are as follows :

1. BENJAMIN DARBY HIGGS, born 17 November, 1866.
2. FREDERICK FISHENDEN HIGGS, J.P., of Albert Head, Victoria, British Columbia (of whom later).



*B. Wilson Higgs*

BENJAMIN WILSON HIGGS, ESQ., M.C.P.(BERMUDA), OF CHARLOTTETOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, BORN 1820.

3. EDMUND TUCKER HIGGS, M.P.P. Born at Charlottetown, P.E.I., 24 November, 1873, he was educated at the Charlottetown Public Schools and Charlottetown Business College. In 1899 he entered the wholesale grocery and shipping office of HORACE HASZARD as a junior clerk. He became chief clerk in 1892, and in 1913 he started business on his own as a fire and marine insurance agent. In 1892, taking a keen interest in sports, he became President of the Victoria Hockey Club. In 1898-1899 he was Secretary of the Charlottetown Board of Trade. Like his antecedents he took an active interest in church work, and from 1893-94 was Secretary-Treasurer of the Methodist Sunday School in Charlottetown; he was also for two years Superintendent of the Kensington Hall Mission, and for five years of the Methodist Sunday School. He has taken a keen interest in the work of the Y.M.C.A. of his native town, and has served for several terms upon







BENJAMIN DARBY HIGGS.



*H. L. Higgs*

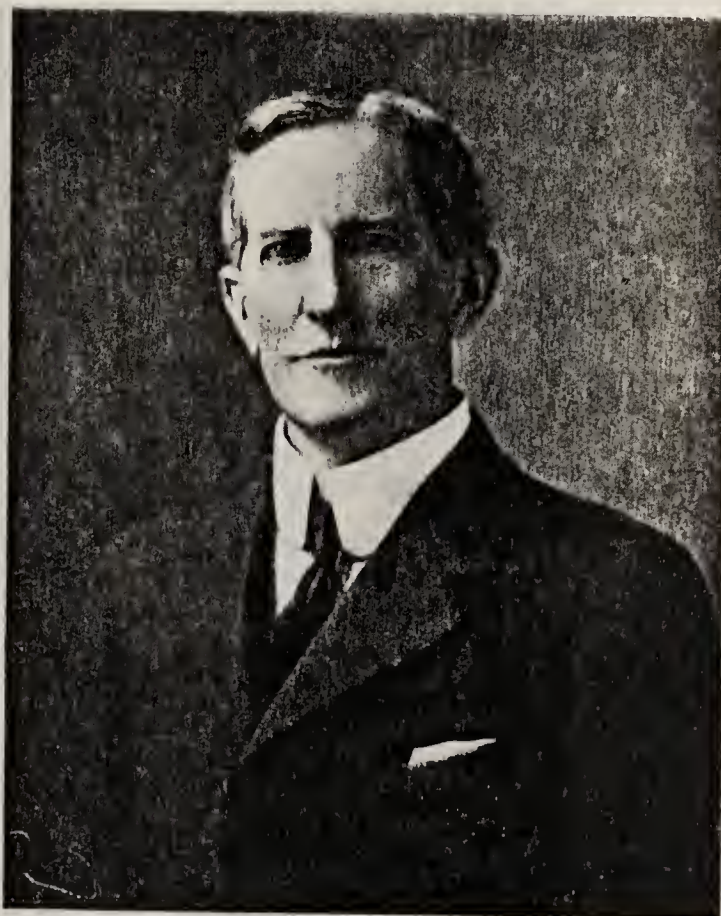
HUMPHREY LATHERN HIGGS.





its board of directors. He became President of the Charlottetown Board of Trade in 1911, and President of the Maritime Board of Trade from 1913-15.

EDMUND TUCKER HIGGS was made honorary life member of the Council of the Charlottetown Board of Trade. He was elected as a Member of the Legislature for Prince Edward Island in 1919. He is a past master of the A.F. and A.M. in Charlottetown; a member of the executive of the Navy League of Canada in 1921 (P.E.I. Division); of the Sons of England, and of the Independent Order of Foresters. He married Miss ANNE IRVING, by whom he has had no family. EDMUND TUCKER HIGGS is President and Manager of HIGGS & Co., LTD., General



EDMUND TUCKER HIGGS, Esq., M.P.P.  
He represented Charlottetown in the P.E.I. Legislative  
Assembly, being elected in 1919.

Agents, Charlottetown, and is Vice-President of GOFF BROS., LTD. He is the only remaining member of his family in Charlottetown, P.E.I.

4. HUMPHREY LATHERN HIGGS, born 7 March, 1877, is the fourth son of BENJAMIN WILSON HIGGS by his second wife, AMELIA ARABELLA DARBY. He studied chemistry and founded a chemist's business at Wetaskiwin, Alberta, and whilst there married ELLEN SINCLAIR of that place 29 October, 1906, daughter of JAMES CROZIER and RACHEL HUNTER SINCLAIR of Belfast, Ireland. From Wetaskiwin he moved to Vernon, British Columbia. Later he sold his business in Vernon and then returned to Alberta, where he purchased a chemist's business at Cardston, and likewise another at Waterton Lake, making his home in the former place. By his wife ELLEN SINCLAIR he has two children, a son and a daughter, namely:

1. BENJAMIN HIGGS (the younger of the two children). At high school in 1930.
- (1) HELEN (HIGGS), B.A.Sc. of the Edmonton University.





The three daughters of BENJAMIN WILSON HIGGS and AMELIA ARABELLA DARBY, his wife, are :

- (1) CATHERINE DAVIS (HIGGS), born 17 October, 1869 ; she became the wife of Mr. T. J. FARQUAHSON, and they settled with their family in Seattle, U.S.A.
- (2) AMELIA ALICE (HIGGS), born 27 September, 1871 ; she married a Mr. R. C. GOFF and settled in Seattle, U.S.A.
- (3) ANNIE DAWSON (HIGGS), born 21 March, 1881 ; she became the wife of Mr. H. STANFORD of Halifax, Nova Scotia.



*F. F. Higgs*

FREDERICK FISHENDEN HIGGS, Esq., J.P. (FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA), OF ALBERT HEAD, VICTORIA, B.C.

Returning to FREDERICK FISHENDEN HIGGS, J.P., of Albert Head, Victoria, British Columbia, the second son of BENJAMIN WILSON HIGGS of Charlottetown, P.E.I., by AMELIA ARABELLA DARBY, his second wife. He was born at Charlottetown 10 October, 1867. (It is he who is referred to in Chapter X of this work as stopping the compiler of this book one day upon Fort Street, Victoria, and asking if his name was HIGGS, as he bore " so strong a resemblance to his father, BENJAMIN WILSON HIGGS ".) FREDERICK FISHENDEN HIGGS settled in Calgary, Alberta, where he became the head of a large business under the name of The Calgary Furnishing Company. On 10 April, 1902, he married ALICE MAUD, daughter of the Hon. W. H. CUSHING, of Calgary, by whom he has the following family of two sons and four daughters :

1. WILLIAM DARBY HIGGS, M.D., born at Calgary 1 June, 1903. He studied medicine at the Toronto University and is a graduate of that University. He married NORA STANLAND of Victoria, British Columbia, and returned to his native place to practise as a doctor, later settling on Vancouver Island, B.C.





2. BURT CUSHING HIGGS, born 9 December, 1910.
- (1) NORA LOUISE (HIGGS), B.A.Sc., born at Calgary 9 September, 1904. She is a graduate of the Vancouver University, a registered nurse, and is upon the staff of the Vancouver General Hospital.
- (2) ELIZABETH CUSHING (HIGGS), born at Calgary 12 January, 1906. She, like her elder sister, is a registered nurse, and is a graduate of the Royal Jubilee Hospital, Victoria, B.C.
- (3) MARY DARBY (HIGGS), the third daughter, also born in Calgary, Alberta, 2 July, 1907.
- (4) MARGARET CUSHING (HIGGS), the youngest of the family, was born at Victoria, British Columbia, 1 March, 1918.

Among list of Freeholders in the Bermudas in 1759 are mentioned :

SAMUEL HIGGS, Sr.  
 Capt. WM. HIGGS, Vestryman, 1759.  
 Mr. JEREMIAH HIGGS, Vestryman, 1760.  
 Mrs. BENJ. HIGGS, widow.  
 JEREMIAH HIGGS, Mariner was a juryman, 1760.  
 MARTIN HIGGS.  
 SAML. HIGGS, Mariner was a juryman in 1760.  
 Miss MARTHA HIGGS, Freeholder, 1798.  
 ELIZABETH HIGGS, Freeholder.  
 JNO. HIGGS, Freeholder, 1760.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE 'MEMORIALS OF THE BERMUDAS' BY LEFROY. 1619-1622.

THO. HIGGS Gunner of the Towne and Warwicke fforts—50' of Tobacco yearly by the Governor & Corne.

WILLIAM HIGGS. One of four Sawyers who wrought continually for the use of the carriages for the ordinance platformes and the like occasions about publicke boats & were paid by the Governor upon his private expenses according to their yearly Earnings.

1626. General levie in Tobacco-anamends for losses.

To THOMAS HIGGS to relieve himself & family 100 lbs.

1628. Recommended into the Marshall's place. THOMAS HIGGS was unable to serve in that place.

1629. To THOMAS HIGGS as a gratuitie for him and for his family—100 lbs. tobacco.

1629. Presentments. Assizes March 16<sup>29</sup>  
30.

THOMAS HIGGS presented for deferring the baptising of his child beyond the accustomed time. And his wife for not coming to the communion. But in that they were not warned they are deferred until the next Assizes

1663. MILES HIGGS held of the Company 19 shares about 25 acres of land at St. David's Island.

#### RECORDS OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS IN BERMUDA. 1677.

A Resolution was passed by the Governor and Council on the 4th of January, 1677, that all readers and clergymen should keep records of Births, Marriages and Deaths for each Parish, of which they were required to deposit certified copies with the Secretary at the end of each year.

There is some reason to think that these valuable documents were regularly transmitted to the Company in London, particularly as no vestige of them can now be found in the Colony, and as this course was always pursued with papers of consequence

Extract from 'Williams' History of Bermuda'.

(Published 1848).





EXTRACTS FROM REGISTER KEPT IN ST. GEORGE'S PARISH IN THE ISLANDS  
OF BERMUDA, KEPT BY REV. ALEXANDER RICHARDSON, RECTOR.

1755-1772. 1778 1802.

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

*Marriages :*

1759. SPICER, (CORNELIUS) Batchelor, and SARAH HIGGS, widow, both of St. George's were married by Banns July 30 per me, ALEXANDER RICHARDSON, Rector.
- \*1759. (1) RICHARD MINORS, Batchelor and ANN LAND, Spinster, both of St. George's were married by Lycense, Sept. 5th.
1760. ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, Batchelor and SARAH HIGGS, widow, were married by Banns, Feby 29th.
1760. JAMES BRIGGS, Bat. and ELEANOR HIGGS, spinster, married by lycense, June 1st, 1760.
1760. SAMUEL HIGGS, Bat. and ELIZABETH SMITH, spinster, married by Lycense, Aug. 17th, 1760.
1760. JEREMIAH HIGGS, widower and RUTH MARTLOCK, widow, both of St. George's married by Banns, per me, A. R., Sept. 18, 1860.
1762. BENJAMIN MINORS, Bat. and ELIZABETH HIGGS, Spinster, both of St. George's married by Lycense, Jany 23rd, 1762.
1766. WILLIAM HIGGS, Bat. and ELIZABETH SMITH, Spinster, both of St. George's married by Lycense.
1766. DANIEL GIBBONS, Bat. and MARY HIGGS, Spinster both of St. George's married by Lycense Sept. 28th.
1767. (2) RICHARD MINORS, widower and ELIZABETH ASKEW, widow, both of St. George's married by Lycense Aug. 15th.
1779. THOMAS LEWIS and JANE HIGGS married by Lycense March 6, 1779.
1782. (3) RICHARD MINORS, Widower and MARY HIGGS, Spinster, both of St. George's, married by Lycense, Sept. 7th.
1783. JOHN OLLERY, Bat. and ELIZABETH HIGGS, Spinster, both of St. George's married by Lycense, April 3, 1783.
1783. JOHN MATHEWS (Frenchman) Bat. and MARTHA HIGGS, widow, married by Lycense July 27, 1783.
1784. THOMAS FURLONG, widower and MARTHA HIGGS, Spinster, both of St. George's by Lycense Feby 11, 1784.
1784. JOSEPH FOX, Bat. and RUTH HIGGS, Spinster, both of St. George's, married by Lycense Aug. 28th, 1784.
1787. JOHN HIGGS, Bat. and LAURA WESTCOTT, married by Banns, May 11, 1787.
1792. JAMES BURCHAL, Bat. and CATHARINE HIGGS, Spinster, both of St. George's by Lycense Jan. 2, 1792.
1794. THOMAS LAMB, Bat. and MARY HIGGS, Spinster, married by Lycense, Dec. 30th.
1801. BENJAMIN WESTCOTT and MARIANNE HIGGS, Married by Lycense August 27th, 1801.

*Baptisms :*

1758. JEREMIAH, son of SAMUEL and REBECCA HIGGS, bapt. April 9th.
1758. WILLIAM, son of WILLIAM and MARY HIGGS, bapt. July 30th.
1784. Mr. BENJAMIN HIGGS's child bapt. Dec. 14, 1784.
1786. SAMUEL, son of ANDREW FOX and FRANCES HIGGS, bapt. June 18, 1786.
1787. RICHARD MINORS, son of JEREMIAH and DOROTHY HIGGS, bapt. Feb. 25th, 1787.
1787. MARIANNE, daughter of JOHN and LAURA HIGGS, bapt. Nov. 13th, 1787.
1789. SARAH, daughter of BENJAMIN FOX and MARY HIGGS, bapt. July 6, 1789.
1790. JOSEPH, Son of JOHN and LAURA HIGGS, bapt. May 15, 1790.
1792. JOHN, Son of JOHN and LAURA HIGGS, bapt. Sept. 16, 1792.

\* The reason the three marriages of RICHARD MINORS is mentioned here is because the third time he married MARY HIGGS.





1794. SAMUEL BURCHAL, son of JONATHAN FOX and ELIZABETH HIGGS, bapt. Nov. 29th.  
 1799. MARY, Daughter of ROBERT BURCHAL and SUSANNA HIGGS, bapt. Jan. 8th, 1799.

*Burials :*

1757. Mr. SAMUEL HIGGS, Jr., buried Sept. 22, 1757.  
 1767. Mr. JEREMIAH HIGGS' child buried June 13, 1767.  
 1771. Mrs. SARAH HIGGS buried April 10, 1771.  
 1771. Mr. SAMUEL HIGGS buried May 25, 1771.  
 1772. Capt. WM. HIGGS (Sen.) buried Dec. 9, 1772.

From Dec. 31, 1772 Parson Richardson resigned his Rectory at St. George's and was Rector of the English Church at St. Eustatia for 5 years. No Records kept in Bermuda during his absence 1773-Feb. 28th, 1778.

1778. Mr. JOSEPH HIGGS, St. George's buried Dec. 28th, 1778.  
 1779. Mrs. ELEANOR HIGGS, St. George's Widow, buried Feb. 28th, 1779.  
 1779. Mrs. SARAH HIGGS, Widow, St. George's buried May 16th.  
 1779. Mr. WILLIAM HIGGS St. George's buried Oct. 24th.  
 1779. Mrs. WILLIAM HIGGS, Widow, St. George's buried Dec. 7th.  
 1781. Mrs. MARY HIGGS, Widow St. George's buried April 6th, 1781.  
 1782. Mr. JOHN HIGGS (Batch) son of WM. buried July 17th, 1782.  
 1784. Mr. ROBERT HIGGS, St. George's buried May 25th, 1784.  
 1786. Mrs. RUTH HIGGS, Widow, buried Oct. 23, 1786.  
 1789. FRANCES HIGGS, Spinster, buried Aug. 29th.  
 1794. JOHN HIGGS, buried Aug. 28th, 1794.  
 1797. ELIZABETH HIGGS, buried June 7th, 1797.





## CHAPTER XXI

## The Higgs Family of the United States of America.

*By Miss Mattie A. Higgs, of Raleigh, North Carolina, with notes by W. Miller Higgs.*

Just after the great Civil War in England one JOHN HIGGS sailed from Bristol in Gloucestershire, and took up land in Surrey County, Virginia. This was in or about the year 1650, at a time when many of the old families of England, worn and tried through years of religious persecution and civil strife, left the Motherland to make their homes in the "Dominions beyond the seas", and in considerable numbers settled in the Southern States.

Following the first permanent settlement made by the English at Jamestown, in Virginia, in 1607, and some thirty years before the time when JOHN HIGGS arrived in Surrey County, Virginia, this emigration had continued, and in 1620 the Plymouth Colony was founded in Massachusetts.

These Plymouth colonists are to be distinguished from those known as the "Puritans"—a body of non-separatist religious reformers from England, who in 1629-30 founded and settled the Massachusetts Bay Colony. The two colonies became united in 1691 under the name of "Massachusetts."

Among the emigrants to Massachusetts Bay in the year 1638 was the widow of THOMAS WILDER of Shiplake in Oxfordshire, whose family, as will have been noted in the earlier chapters of this work, had intermarried with the HIGGS families of Berkshire and of Oxfordshire. She, MARTHA by name, sailed in the ship "Confidence" from Southampton, in company with at least two of her sons—THOMAS, who was born at Shiplake in 1618, and EDWARD, who was also born there in 1623—and a daughter ELIZABETH, born at Shiplake in 1621. They made their home at Charlestown, Mass., THOMAS marrying ANNE EAMES in 1640, whilst his brother EDWARD married ELIZABETH EAMES, and the daughter ELIZABETH became the wife of one THOMAS ENSIGN. THOMAS WILDER, later moved to Lancaster, Mass., and died there in 1667 (23 October). EDWARD died in 1690. Their mother MARTHA had been laid to rest at Kingham, Mass., 20 April, 1652. A very interesting history of the descendants of THOMAS WILDER of Shiplake, Oxfordshire, England (by MARTHA, his wife, and the emigrant widow), was written by the Rev. MOSES H. WILDER in 1878, when the known descendants of this family in the United States in the year 1875 numbered no less than 5113.

EDMUND PLOWDEN, styled in his will as Sir EDMUND PLOWDEN, and Lord Earl Palatine, son of FRANCIS PLOWDEN of Shiplake Court in Oxfordshire, was Governor and Captain-General of the Province of New Albion in America, and in this fact may be found the reason for MARTHA WILDER's emigration to Massachusetts. FRANCIS PLOWDEN died at Shiplake in 1652. His aunt ANNE PLOWDEN married THOMAS HIGGES of Halford, Shropshire, who was undoubtedly related to the HIGGS family of Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire, whilst ELEANOR WILDER, daughter of JOHN WILDER of Nunhide, in Sulham, Berkshire, the probable aunt of THOMAS WILDER of Shiplake, Oxon, married JOHN HIGGS of Sulhampstead Bannister, Co. Berks, whose will is dated December, 1596,





and was proved 3 March, 1598-9, in the Archdeaconry Court of Berkshire (Ref. J. 1353). He was in all probability one of the large family of sons and daughters born to NICHOLAS HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon, and MARY, daughter and co-heir of GRIFFITH BARTON, his wife, whose marriage took place at St. Andrew's Church, South Stoke, in 1558. NICHOLAS HIGGS was of the old Gloucestershire family, and there is every probability that JOHN HIGGS, who emigrated and took up land in Surrey County, Virginia, in 1650, was his grandson. Certain it is that the kinsfolk of NICHOLAS HIGGS (who had settled in South Stoke, Oxon, from Weobley, County Hereford, to which place he had settled from near Gloucester), namely descendants of the HIGGS family of Colesbourne, near Cheltenham, and the city of Gloucester, emigrated to Maryland in the seventeenth century.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF MARYLAND.

The following wills of the HIGGS families of Maryland are preserved at Annapolis :

- 1693. HENRY HIGGS of Cecil County.
- 1696. WARNER SUDALL of Talbot County, who left property to CLEMENT HIGGS, son of CHRISTOPHER HIGGS.
- 1723. CHRISTOPHER HIGGS of Talbot County.
- 1745. THOMAS HIGGS of Talbot County.
- 1747. AARON HIGGS, son of CHRISTOPHER, Talbot County.

It is worthy of note that the earliest is that of one HENRY HIGGS. The baptismal name of HENRY is by no means a common one in the family at this, and earlier periods, and upon referring to the account of the HIGGS family of Gloucestershire, it will be seen that the Royal descent of one HENRY HIGGS of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, is given through his mother, the Hon. JANE SANDYS, from Edward III. The subsequent history of that HENRY HIGGS is lost sight of, and he may have been among those of his family who emigrated to America after the Civil War in England, and this very HENRY who took up a plantation in Cecil County, Maryland, which he devised upon his decease in 1693 to his wife and daughter—who at that time was under sixteen years of age.

HENRY HIGGS of Cheltenham was a nephew of WILLIAM HIGGES, Lord of the Manor of Colesbourne, Gloucestershire, and a son of his brother JOHN HIGGES, and there is every probability that his father JOHN HIGGES was closely related to the JOHN HIGGS who left England and took up land in Virginia in 1650. Another fact worthy of note is that at this time in Maryland was living one ANDREW HIGGS, who had settled there from the Barbadoes, in the West Indies, having married a widow of a gentleman of that settlement. This baptismal name has been found *once only* in all the years of research work into the history of the HIGGS family, and that in connection with the HIGGS family of Colesbourne, when THOMAS HIGGS, who succeeded his father WILLIAM as Lord of the Manor in 1614, baptized his second son "Andrew" 27 April, 1637. This son does not again appear in the parish records, and there can be little doubt that he emigrated to the Barbadoes, and eventually settled in Maryland, dying there in 1675.

Reference has been made to the will of WARNER SUDALL of Talbot County, Maryland, who left property to CLEMENT HIGGS, son of one CHRISTOPHER HIGGS. This will was probated in 1696, and he devised land to CLEMENTINE, HANNAH and JOHN EMMERSON, jun., as well as to the aforesaid CLEMENT, son of CHRISTOPHER HIGGS, who with JOE GREGORY and JANE McKEEN were witnesses to the will. Again the baptismal name of "CLEMENT" is one associated with the HIGGS family of Colesbourne, ANDREW HIGGS having a brother of this name, as well as an uncle CLEMENT HIGGS, whose names appear upon the pedigree of the family entered in the College of Arms, London.





The will of CHRISTOPHER HIGGS of Talbot County, Maryland, dated 1722, and probated in the following year, devises one-third of his dwelling plantation to his widow during her life, and at her decease it was to pass to his son AARON HIGGS and his heirs. Another third of his estate was to go to his son CLEMENT HIGGS, his executor, etc., whilst other children's names are given, including FRANCIS, SARAH, RACHEL and REBECCA.

To trace all the descendants of these early HIGGS families in Maryland would be intensely interesting, as there is every reason to believe that they are undoubtedly entitled to the use of the ancient Coat of Arms confirmed to the HIGGS family of Colchester, Gloucestershire, at the visitation of the county by the heralds in 1623. AARON HIGGS died in 1745, his will being probated in 1747. There was also a THOMAS HIGGS, whose will was probated in 1745.

In the census taken of Maryland in 1790 the following is found :

Charles County :

JONATHAN HIGGS, 1 male over 16, 1 female, 1 slave.

GEORGE HIGGS, 3 males over 16, 2 under, and 4 females.

(*Note.* Charles County, Maryland is across the Potomac River from Virginia.)

Ann Arundel County :

HENRY HIGGS, 1 over 16, none under, 3 females.

These were the only HIGGSSES listed in Maryland in 1790; others of this family had no doubt crossed over into Virginia and other States, though there were no HIGGSSES recorded in Virginia at the census taken in 1782, 1783, and 1785, those there earlier having all removed to North and South Carolina and other States or colonies.

In the Archives of Maryland, vol. 7, in a list of men in Talbot County who had been on an expedition against the Indians in 1678, the names of JOHN HIGGS and GILES HIGGS appear. The surname of KENELM is found in the records of this county and later in Granville County, North Carolina; one of the grandsons of ZACHARIAH HIGGS was named KENELM HIGGS, which probably indicates a close connection between the Maryland and North Carolina families.

JOHN HIGGS, who settled in Virginia in 1650 from Bristol, Co. Gloucestershire, England, sold his land in this State or colony as it then was in 1693—in the same year as the decease of HENRY HIGGS of Cecil County, Maryland—and the family appears to have moved into North and South Carolina. In South Carolina at the census taken in 1790 the following HIGGSSES are recorded :

Camden District, Clarendon County :

JOHN HIGGS, 1 over 16, 2 under 16, and 3 females.

Georgetown District, Prince George County :

THOMAS HIGGS, 1 over 16, 1 under 16, and 2 females.

JOHN HIGGS was in the Revolutionary Army of South Carolina. There were also Higgs families in Connecticut recorded in the 1790 census, namely :

JOHN HIGGS, 1 over 16, none under, and 2 females.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Among those who took up land in this State, settling in Bertie County from Surry (Surrey) County, Virginia, before 1750 were : ABRAHAM HIGGS, JOHN HIGGS and REUBEN HIGGS, passing through the Isle of Wight and Nansemond Counties, with friends and neighbours, such as the families of HARRELL, NORFLEET, ANDREWS, WILLIAMS, RUTLAND, BARNES and COTTON, and settled on the Cashie River—a short river which rises in the county of Bertie, and empties into the Roanoke, before leaving the county. They also had land on the Roanoke River, and it is most probable that ABRAHAM HIGGS, JOHN





HIGGS and REUBEN HIGGS, ZACKARIAH HIGGS, SAMUEL HIGGS, etc., were sons and grandsons of JOHN HIGGS and ELINOR his wife, who sold their land in Virginia (Surrey County) in 1693. ABRAHAM HIGGS married SARAH HARRELL, sister to JOSEPH HARRELL, before 1758, when a deed is recorded from JOSEPH HARRELL to ABRAHAM HIGGS. The emigrant ancestor of ABRAHAM HIGGS's wife Sarah is said to have been one SAMUEL HARRELL, who was born in the county of Kent, England, in 1663, and who died in Virginia in 1753. ABRAHAM HIGGS died in 1782. His will was probated in 1783, wherein he is described as "of Windsor, Bertie County". He left his wife SARAH, two sons, ABRAHAM HIGGS and JOHN HIGGS, and two daughters, SARAH and ELIZABETH. ABRAHAM HIGGS (II), the elder son, went to Washington County, Georgia, about 1795. A deed is on record in Bertie County, N.C., from him to one THOMAS HOUSE, selling land in Bertie, and he is recorded as "of the County of Washington, State of Georgia".

The second son—JOHN HIGGS—married his cousin BETTIE HIGGS in 1787; lived in Bertie County and died in or about 1815, leaving the following children: 1, JOHN HIGGS; 2, THEOPHILUS HIGGS; (1) JANET; (2) PAMELIA, who became the wife of one WIGGINS, and (3) PATSY, who married one of the surname of MOORE.

JOHN HIGGS, one of the three who came into Bertie County from Virginia before 1750, married JUDATH HARRELL, daughter of JOHN HARRELL and LUCY, his wife. They had land on the Cashie River, near "Flag Run". (One of the early deeds from SOLOMON HARRELL to JOHN HIGGS in 1774 mentions Roanoke River.) There they made their home, working to open up new territory. Upon the outbreak of the Revolutionary War JOHN HIGGS was a patriot, and was in the North Carolina Continental Troops. He died intestate in 1781, and his widow JUDATH lived until 1795. All their children had married, and moved from the home place, before JUDATH (HARRELL) HIGGS died, except a daughter JUDATH, and they had all received their share of their father's estate. Before the death of JUDATH, she made a deed of gift of her land to be divided between her sons JOHN HIGGS and ELISHA HIGGS, but before the division in 1796 her son JOHN HIGGS was dead, and his portion went to his children. The sons and daughters of JOHN HIGGS and his wife JUDATH HARRELL were:

1. WILLIAM HIGGS. He married DELILAH MOORE 17 January, 1782.
2. JOHN HIGGS. He married MILLIE MOORE 16 May, 1786.
3. JACOB HIGGS. He married SARAH BISHOP in 1790.
4. REUBEN HIGGS. He married JUDATH HAYES in 1800.
5. ELISHA HIGGS. He married (wife's name unknown).
- (1) SARAH. She married JOHN HOLLAND 10 February, 1786.
- (2) PRISCILLA. She married JOHN RUTLAND.
- (3) MARY. She married JOHN YOUNG.
- (4) ELIZABETH. She married JOHN HIGGS 29 December, 1787.
- (5) JUDATH HIGGS, of whom there remains no record.

The eldest son WILLIAM HIGGS in the Court Records of 1793 was called "Captain WILLIAM HIGGS". In 1798 he is recorded as a member of the Royal Lodge No. 3 of Masons in Windsor, Bertie County, and in 1807 WILLIAM HIGGS and MOORE HIGGS were upon the list of the members of Davie Lodge No. 39 Masons. WILLIAM HIGGS, senior, was in the list of owners of taxable property in 1793 (Court Minutes), and was a Juror. He died in 1823, and left a large estate on the Cashie River and Roanoke River. The children of WILLIAM HIGGS and DELILAH MOORE, his wife, were:

1. JOHN HIGGS.
2. WILLIAM HIGGS, born 1792.
3. JOHNSTON HIGGS, married MARY (POLLY) COTTON.
- (1) MARTHA. She married one named WILKES.
- (2) MARY M. HIGGS.
- (3) JUDATH. She married RICHARD H. BARNES.





The second son of WILLIAM HIGGS and DELILAH MOORE—WILLIAM HIGGS—born in 1792, went to Georgia to live. He married, and had three sons and one daughter :

1. ELISHA HIGGS, born in 1815. He married, and had a son and a daughter :
  1. J. T. HIGGS, born 29 January, 1852, who resided in Appling County, Georgia.
  - (1) ELSIE, who married a Mr. GRINER and lives in Nashville, Georgia, where she is practising as an attorney.
2. ROBERT HIGGS.
3. JASPER HIGGS.
- (1) MATILDA.

JOHNSTON HIGGS, the third son of WILLIAM HIGGS and DELILAH MOORE, his wife, became executor to his father's will. MARY (POLLY) COTTON, his wife, was a daughter of JESSE COTTON, and a sister of JESSE and GODWIN COTTON. There are recorded a number of deeds in respect to JOHNSTON HIGGS in Bertie County, N.C. He died in 1834 and the following is his very short will :

Probated 12th May, 1834.

**In the Name of God, Amen.** I, JOHNSTON HIGGS, of my own free will and accord make this my last Will and Testament : I give to my wife POLLY all that I am now possessed of to dispose of as she may think best.

(Signed) JOHNSTON HIGGS.

POLLY, his wife, died in 1859. She left no children, but had nephews and nieces. Among her nephews was ASA BIGGS, afterwards U.S. Congressman, whom she brought up, as his mother died when he was very young. There were three sisters named COTTON : MARY, who married JOHNSTON HIGGS, one who married Mr. BIGGS, and the third who married a Mr. ANDREWS.

There are no HIGGSES in Bertie County, Halifax, or Granville County at the present time so far as Miss MATTIE A. HIGGS was able to discover up to the year 1929.

Returning to REUBEN HIGGS, the fourth son of JOHN HIGGS and JUDATH HARRELL, his wife, who married JUDATH HAYES in 1800, died in 1823. In 1825 there is a record of the division of negroes to "Mrs. JUDATH HIGGS, JAMES HIGGS, WHITMELL HIGGS, PAMELA HIGGS STEPHENS, and to set apart to JAMES NORFLEET and CAROLINE, his wife, the proper proportion to which they are entitled, and also to value, and put apart to the said NORFLEET and wife, their share of SYLVESTRA HIGGS's right to the said negroes, and that they make return to the next Court". They lived near Woodville, Bertie County, N.C.

Of the other sons and daughters of JOHN HIGGS and JUDATH HARRELL, his wife, no records are available, except in connection with their third son and seventh child, namely :

JACOB HIGGS. He was no doubt named after his uncle JACOB HARRELL of Bertie County, North Carolina, and was born in 1768. He married SARAH BISHOP, a daughter of WILLIAM BISHOP of Halifax County, a descendant of JOHN BISHOP, who settled in Virginia about 1640, and was a Burgess from Charles City, Co. Virginia, in 1644.

They made their home across the Roanoke River, in Halifax County. JACOB HIGGS was paying land taxes in Halifax about 1800, and owned more than 1000 acres, which upon his death in 1817 he devised to his sons, also several negroes. His will is as follows :

**In the Name of God, Amen :** I, JACOB HIGGS of Halifax County and State of North Carolina, being sick and weak, but sound as respects my mind and body, blessed be God for the same, do this 22nd day of December, in the year 1816, make and publish this my last Will and Testament in manner and form as follows : Viz. :





**First :** I give to my wife SALLY HIGGS, two feather beds and furniture. Three horses, namely "Young Harry", "Jonah Filly", and the horse I bought at the sale of ELI JOYNER; six cows and calves of the choice of my stock; ten of the choice ewes; six sows and thirty shoats; one beef; barn, fodder, and meat sufficient to support her and family one year; one hundred weight of brown sugar; fifty weight of coffee; cotton and flax sufficient to clothe her and family one year; my riding chair and harness. I lend to my above named wife during her life the following property: The tract of land I now live on, my still, all my carts, four negroes namely:—Jacob, Charles, Sary and Nancy; all of my household and kitchen furniture, all my spinning wheels, cards and looms.

**Second :** I give to my son WILLIE HIGGS, the tract of land on Deep Creek, that I bought of JOEL ATKINSON, containing four hundred and thirty acres, in consideration of which he is to pay to my son JOSEPH HIGGS, when he arrives at the age of twenty-one years—Three hundred dollars.

**Thirdly :** I give to my son JOSEPH HIGGS, the tract of land on Deep Creek that I bought of HARDYMAN BISHOP and WILLIAM VAUGHAN, executors, containing about Two hundred and sixty acres, and One hundred and Fifty Dollars to finish his education.

**Fourthly :** I give to my two sons JACOB and REUBEN HIGGS, all the residue of my lands that I own in Halifax County, to be equally divided in value between them when my son JACOB arrives at the age of Twenty-one, after which division my son JACOB to have the place I now live on, my son REUBEN the balance.

**Fifthly :** I give to my daughter SALLY HIGGS, a negro woman LILLER and child MERANZA, and the above named negro woman SARY after the death of my wife.

**Sixthly :** I give to my daughter JUDA HIGGS, money sufficient out of my estate for my executors to purchase a young negro woman, or a young negro woman and child, as opportunity may offer to my Executors, and the above named negro woman NANCY, after the death of my wife, and Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars to educate her.

**Seventhly :** I give to my son JACOB HIGGS, One hundred and fifty dollars to educate him.

**Eighthly :** I give to my son REUBEN HIGGS, Two hundred and fifty dollars to educate him.

**Ninthly :** I wish all my lands and negroes, not lent to my wife, rented and hired out until my son WILLIE arrives at the age of Twenty-one years, and the money equally divided between the whole of my children.

**Tenthly :** All my negroes, except those given to my two daughters I give to be equally divided between my four sons, namely:—WILLIE, JOSEPH, JACOB and REUBEN, to be divided at the following times and manner: When my son WILLIE arrives at the age of Twenty one, he is to take one fourth part. When my son JOSEPH HIGGS arrives at the age of Twenty he is to take one third of the balance; When my son JACOB arrives at the age of Twenty, the balance to be equally divided between him and my son REUBEN.

**Lastly :** The residue of my Estate I wish my executors to sell at any time they may choose after my death, the money to be converted to the payment of my debts and above named legacies in Money.

I nominate and appoint my friend WM. R. SMITH, and son WILLIE HIGGS Executors to this my last Will and Testament. My son WILLIE to be under the direction and control of WM. R. SMITH.

**Witness** my hand and seal, the day and date above written,

(Signed) JACOB HIGGS.  
(Seal).

Signed, sealed and acknowledged in the  
presence of us,

NATHAN MAYO,

JOHN YOUNG,

Halifax County, Feb., 1817.





This will was exhibited in open court and duly sworn by the oath of NATHAN MAYO, one of the subscribing witnesses thereto, who says that the testator was at the time of subscribing the same of sound mind and memory, and on motion ordered to be recorded.

Whereupon WILLIE HIGGS, one of the executors therein named, came in and was duly qualified thereto. Witness: RICHARD EPPS, C.S.C.

SARAH (BISHOP) HIGGS, the widow of JACOB HIGGS, remained as such until her decease in 1837. She made her will 18 June, 1836, and devised money and negro slaves to her daughter POLLY, who had married a Mr. McMILLAN. POLLY was evidently born after JACOB HIGGS made his will in 1816, and as all his six children whom he did mention were under twenty-one years of age, the son JACOB HIGGS being only ten years old, this is evidently the case. As the property which her husband (the home place) was left by JACOB HIGGS to pass on to their son JACOB at her death, SARAH (BISHOP) HIGGS bequeathed servants, negro slaves, to each of her children, and from her will it is noted that the children at that date, 1836, had married as follows:

1. WILLIE (pronounced "Wiley") HIGGS, born in 1802, married twice; first to ELIZABETH S. PIPPIN, daughter of JOSEPH PIPPIN, in 1822, and had by her one child, who died in infancy. He married secondly NANCY PITTMAN in 1823, daughter of JOHN PITMAN or PITTMAN, the youngest son of AMBROSE PITTMAN.

The PITMAN or PITTMAN family were, traditionally, of Scandinavian origin, and went first into Saxony and from there into Britain and settled, it is stated, in Monmouthshire on the Welsh border, where they were living in the seventeenth century and fought for their ill-fated King. When Charles I was beheaded, three PITMAN or PITTMAN brothers joined the cavalier emigration to America and landed at James City, County Virginia. There, in the course of time, they separated, one brother going to the Northern Colony, one remained in Virginia, and one went "to the far South". This is certified from original records in Virginia. THOMAS PITTMAN was in Surry County, Virginia, as early as 1648 or '49 if not earlier). In an affidavit made by this THOMAS PITTMAN in 1677 at Smith's Fort, Surry County, he stated that he was then 63 years of age, so was born in or about 1614. Present with him at that time were Mr. THOMAS WARING and Mr. THOMAS ROLFE, who was *Pocahontas'* son. He was on the list of titheables for Surry County, Virginia, in 1668 as Capt. PITMAN. A Capt. PITMAN, who was one third owner with one GRIGGS and another JARVIS of the ship "Recovery", made petition in 1664 to the Duke of York relative to their boat clearing for Gravesend. This Capt. THOMAS PITTMAN had a son THOMAS, who had sons WILLIAM and THOMAS, who were foot soldiers in 1687, Surry County Virginia. THOMAS PITTMAN (ii) or his son THOMAS PITTMAN (iii) went to Lancaster County, Virginia, where he met and married HANNAH FIELDING. The Arms borne by this family of PITTMAN were:—

Quarterly: Argent and Or—an eagle displayed with two heads Gules.

Crest: On a shell a martlet (the crest of the PITTMAN Family of Dunchideock, Co. Devon, England).

Motto: "Fortis agendo"—"By doing bravely".

AMBROSE PITTMAN was a son of THOMAS PITTMAN, by HANNAH FIELDING, his wife. AMBROSE, settling in Edgecombe County, North Carolina, about 1739, became the father of four sons, ELISHA, ELIJA, ARTHUR and JOHN, and several daughters. (From the son ARTHUR is descended ETHEL PITTMAN, wife of T. D. LAWRENCE of Enfield, N.C.) NANCY, daughter of JOHN PITTMAN, became the second wife of WILLIE HIGGS (the eldest son of JACOB HIGGS and SARAH BISHOP his wife), by whom he had four daughters:

- (1) MARY LOUISE HIGGS, born 1824 and died 1889. She married JOSEPH BRYAN in 1839 and by him had issue four sons and seven daughters:
  1. WILLIE D. BRYAN, born 1840; died 1841.
  2. JOSEPH WALTER BRYAN, born 1845; died 1865. He was killed at Fort Fisher in the Confederate States Army in 1865 at the fall of that fort.
  3. OLIVER E. BRYAN, born 1852; died 1854.
  4. HERBERT E. BRYAN, born 1854.





- (1) ALICE A. (BRYAN), born 1842. She married in 1862 JOHN RANDOLPH, and by him had issue two sons and one daughter :
  1. JOSEPH CARY RANDOLPH, born 1870. He married VICTORIA HALTENSTEL, and died in 1898.
  2. PAUL VAN RANDOLPH, born 1873. He married ANNIE HOWELL in 1897.
- (1) ANNIE LOU (RANDOLPH), born 1866. She married EUGENE G. CURRIN in 1888.
- (2) SUSAN EMILY (BRYAN), born 1847. She married in 1866 Mr. WHITMEL ALLEN, and died in 1918.
- (3) EMILY LOUISE (BRYAN), born 1850. She married in 1870 Dr. CHARLES GREGORY.
- (4) MARY JAMES (BRYAN), born 1857. She married in 1879 Mr. EMMET POWELL, and died in 1899.
- (5) DORA A. (BRYAN), born 1859; died 1874.
- (6) HITTIE LEE (BRYAN), born 1862. She married Mr. JOHN J. POPE.
- (7) MAUDE (BRYAN), born 1866. She married in 1888 Mr. CHARLES SIMMONS.
- (Note.—JOSEPH BRYAN, the father of this family, was a school teacher near Dawsons Cross Roads.)
- (2) MARTHA INDIANA HIGGS, the second daughter of WILLIE HIGGS and NANCY PITTMAN his wife, was born 7 March, 1830. She married Mr. WILLIAM RICHARD THOMAS WILLIAMS (born 4 March, 1827), son of W. R. T. WILLIAMS by ROSEANNA PITTMAN his wife, in Halifax County, N.C., and by him had five sons and three daughters :
  1. JOHN RICHARD WILLIAMS, born 5 August, 1851, in Northampton County. He married MARTHA FRANCES WILLIAMS (born 11 May, 1858), and by her had issue two sons and three daughters :
    1. W. RICHARD WILLIAMS, born 1891.
    2. GEORGE CARLYLE WILLIAMS, born 1893.
  - (1) HELEN TUNIS (WILLIAMS), born 1884.
  - (2) LOTA (WILLIAMS), born 1886.
  - (3) ESSIE (WILLIAMS), born 1888.
2. THOMAS WILEY WILLIAMS, born Northampton County, August, 1851.
3. WM. JOSIE WILLIAMS, born Northampton County, 10 September, 1858.
4. CHARLES AUGUSTUS WILLIAMS, born Northampton County, 23 March, 1864.
5. WALTER WILLIAMS, born Northampton County, 17 July, 1869.
- (1) ROSALIE (WILLIAMS), born Halifax County, N.C., 17 August, 1849.
- (2) PATTIE (WILLIAMS), born Northampton County, 12 November, 1855.
- (3) ANNIE PITTMAN (WILLIAMS), born Halifax County, 18 September, 1873. She married a Mr. MORRIS.
- (3) HARRIET WILLIE HIGGS, the third daughter of WILLIE HIGGS by NANCY PITTMAN his wife, was born about 1833. She married twice. First about 1848 to SPIER PITTMAN at the home of her uncle JACOB HIGGS, Shady Rest in Halifax County (she and her three sisters being the wards of JACOB HIGGS after the death of their parents). Of this marriage there were two sons :
  1. JOHN PITTMAN, who married KITCHEN, the daughter of BOAZ PITTMAN.
  2. WILEY PITTMAN.
 She married secondly Mr. EATON POWELL of Edgecombe County, N.C.
- (4) EMILY HIGGS, the fourth daughter, died in young ladyhood.
2. JOSEPH HIGGS, the second son of JACOB HIGGS by SARAH BISHOP his wife, was born in Halifax County, N.C., 1 January, 1806. He married twice; first to MARY POPE (sister of MARTIN POPE, on 2 February, 1828, by whom he had one son and one daughter :
  1. JAMES HENRY HIGGS, born 1829. He married MARY SHIELDS (born MARY CROWELL, daughter or sister of MARTIN CROWELL, or CROMWELL, as members of the family of CROMWELL who came to America changed their name *en route* to North Carolina to "CROWELL"). By his wife MARY, JAMES HENRY HIGGS had one son and one daughter :
    1. JAMES MARTIN HIGGS.
  - (1) MARY (HIGGS), who became the wife of JAMES E. CONDREY.
 JAMES HENRY HIGGS married secondly in 1886 MALISSA WATSON, a widow of Pitt County, by whom he had no children.
- (1) SALLIE BISHOP (HIGGS).





JOSEPH HIGGS married secondly between 1830 and 1834 Miss FINETTA STATON of Edgecombe County, and by her had the following family of one son and three daughters :

1. SAMUEL HIGGS, who died in infancy.
- (1) MARGARET ANN, born 19 March, 1836. She married in 1871 JEREMIAH FRANKLIN TAYLOR, by whom she had one son and one daughter :
  1. SETH CLARK TAYLOR. He married LULA PRITCHARD, by whom he had one son and one daughter :
    1. SETH TAYLOR.
    - (1) MARGARET (TAYLOR).
  - (1) VIRGINIA. She married H. N. GRIFFITH, by whom she had one daughter :
    - (1) ANN HIGGS (GRIFFITH).
- (2) ALVANA THOMAS, born 28 June, 1838. She married 22 March, 1863, JOHN ROBERT WARREN, by whom she had six sons and three daughters :
  1. CHARLES BENJAMIN WARREN.
  2. JOSEPH LAWRENCE WARREN. He married DORA TUCKER.
  3. JAMES NORFLEET WARREN.
  4. ROBERT LUTHER WARREN. He married MAUDE MAYO.
  5. JAMES RODMAN WARREN.
  6. WILLIAMSON WARREN.
  - (1) LILLIE LEE (WARREN). She married JOHN T. PHILLIPS.
  2. LOULA DEANS (WARREN). She married JOHN WILLIAM PEEBLES.
  - (3) MARTHA SELMA (WARREN).
- (3) HARRIET ELIZA, the third daughter of JOSEPH HIGGS by FINETTA STATON his wife, never married.

JOSEPH HIGGS was a school teacher, and though he inherited land from his father JACOB HIGGS, he was not a good manager and lost much of his property. Both of his wives were women of considerable means.

3. JACOB HIGGS (ii). Of whom later.
  4. REUBEN HIGGS, the youngest son of JACOB HIGGS and SARAH BISHOP his wife, was born in 1809. He married on 5 November, 1832, ELIZA J. HIGGS. He is mentioned in his father's will by a provision of two hundred and fifty dollars for his education, an inheritance in land, and in the division of the negro servants. He is also mentioned in his mother's will dated 1836, about which time he went to Tennessee, and is said to have eventually died of "spotted fever" in that State.
- There are HIGGSSES in Tennessee at the present time (1930) who may be his descendants, living in Memphis, namely, CLARENCE HIGGS and HOMER HIGGS.
- (1) SARAH, or SALLIE, the eldest daughter of JACOB HIGGS and SARAH BISHOP his wife, married on 25 May, 1821, WILLIAM WHITEHEAD, and by him had the following family of five sons and one daughter :
    1. JACOB WHITEHEAD married MARY WHITE of Scotland Neck, North Carolina, by whom he had six daughters :
      - (1) SARAH. She married WILLIAM PENDER.
      - (2) ANNA. She married W. T. MANNING.
      - (3) IDA. She married B. E. POPE.
      - (4) ROSA. She married — CHERRY.
      - (5) ETTA. She married — BUTTS.
      - (6) JAKE. She married — COOPER.
    2. JOSEPH WHITEHEAD married ELIZA GREY, by whom he had one son :
      1. EUGENE T. WHITEHEAD. He married LIZZIE LAWRENCE, and by her had nine children, four of whom died in infancy. Of those who survived were three sons and two daughters :
        1. EUGENE WHITEHEAD (unmarried in 1930).
        2. JOSEPH WHITEHEAD, who married KATHERINE T. SHIELDS.
        3. LANDON WHITEHEAD (unmarried).
      - (1) IRENE. She married R. D. HOUSE, of Scotland Neck, N.C.
      - (2) GERTRUDE, who became the wife of J. C. RIDDICK.
    3. WILLIAM WHITEHEAD. He married and has three daughters :
      - (1) SADIE, who married L. C. GRIFFIN.





- (2) EMMA, who married JOSEPH LAWRENCE.
  - (3) JANNY, who never married.
  - 4. REUBEN HIGGS WHITEHEAD (never married).
  - 5. HARDYMAN WHITEHEAD (never married).
  - (1) ROSINA (WHITEHEAD), the only daughter of WILLIAM WHITEHEAD by SARAH, or SALLIE, HIGGS his wife, was born 7 January, 1835. She married LAERTES MORGAN PITTMAN and by him had five children—four sons and one daughter :
    - 1. JAMES ALLAN PITTMAN, born 14 November, 1864. He married ANNIE BIGGS of Scotland Neck, N.C., by whom he had no issue.
    - 2. WILLIAM L. PITTMAN, born 8 August, 1867. He married IDA SHEPPARD of Winston Salem, N.C., by whom he had five children—three sons and two daughters :
      - 1. JAMES ALLEN PITTMAN, born 9 February, 1897.
      - 2. SHEPPARD PITTMAN, born 9 February, 1899.
      - 3. JOSEPH WHITEHEAD PITTMAN, born April, 1902.
    - (1) ANNIE LOUISE (PITTMAN), born April, 1902 (twin).
    - (2) ELIZABETH, who married RANDOLPH BARKSDALE, by whom she had twin children :
      - 1. JOSEPH BARKSDALE.
      - (1) ANNA (BARKSDALE).
  - 3. LAERTES MORGAN PITTMAN (ii), born 3 June, 1870. He married LELIA F. SHIELDS 28 May, 1901, by whom he has six children—three sons and three daughters. (LELIA F. SHIELDS was of Scotland Neck, N.C.)
    - 1. HENRY W. PITTMAN, born 12 January, 1904. He died in infancy.
    - 2. FRANK SHIELDS PITTMAN, born 24 October, 1908.
    - 3. JAMES LAERTES PITTMAN, born 8 April, 1911.
    - (1) BETSY WHITMORE (PITTMAN), born 7 June, 1903 ; died in infancy.
    - (2) ROSINA WHITEHEAD (PITTMAN), born 26 May, 1906.
    - (3) AMELIA FLORENCE (PITTMAN), born 25 June, 1915.
  - 4. EDGAR L. PITTMAN, born 15 May, 1873, and died 3 December, 1875.
  - (1) ANNIE L. (PITTMAN), born 8 November, 1861. She became the wife of JOSEPH ADDISON VANCE, of Winston Salem, N.C., on 31 July, 1896, and by him had two sons and one daughter :
    - 1. KEMP PITTMAN VANCE. He died in infancy.
    - 2. JOSEPH ADDISON VANCE (ii), born 10 October, 1901. He married EDITH HUNT.
    - (1) ANNIE ROSINA (VANCE), born 7 April, 1899.
- ROSINA (WHITEHEAD), who became the wife of LAERTES MORGAN PITTMAN, and the mother of the above family, lost her mother and her father when she was very young, and was reared by JACOB HIGGS, her maternal uncle. She married LAERTES MORGAN PITTMAN, who was the son of ELISHA PITTMAN (grandson of AMBROSE PITTMAN through his son ELISHA PITTMAN) by REBECCA VINSON his wife (born 21 March, 1834) on 13 October, 1859. The surname of VINSON is by no means a common one either in America or in England, and it may be that REBECCA VINSON was a descendant of that family associated with Newbury in Berkshire, England, in the seventeenth century, and which inter-married with the HIGGS family of Orpington, Co. Kent, England (a branch of the Thatcham HIGGSSES), in the nineteenth century as given in Chapter XIII. REBECCA VINSON married ELISHA PITTMAN 12 February, 1820. ELISHA PITTMAN was the youngest of a large family, the eldest of whom was DEMPSEY PITTMAN.
- (2) JUDATH was the second daughter of JACOB HIGGS and SARAH BISHOP his wife. She died unmarried.
  - (3) POLLY, the third daughter, is mentioned in her mother's will. She married a Mr. McMILLAN.

(Note.—In the will of SARAH (BISHOP) HIGGS in 1836 is the following interesting paragraph :

“ I give and bequeath my gig and harness to my daughter JUDY, and I wish my daughter SALLY to have the use of it to carry my daughter JUDY about.”





Another interesting paragraph in her will shows her consideration for her negro servants, who evidently received every consideration from the HIGGS family at, or near to, Scotland Neck, N.C. :

"It is my will and desire that my sons JOSEPH and REUBEN take particular care of my negro woman SARAH, and see that she does not suffer.")

Returning to the third son of JACOB HIGGS and SARAH BISHOP, his wife, namely JACOB HIGGS (ii), so named after his father and great uncle JACOB HARRELL, this son was born 30 November, 1807, in Halifax County, N.C., near Scotland Neck. He was sent to school at Vine Hill Academy, and after finishing his education, towards which his father had willed One hundred and fifty dollars in 1817, he succeeded to the home property under his father's will, together with his share of the residue of his father's lands in Halifax County upon his reaching the age of twenty-one in 1828, though his mother continued to have the use of the home place until her death in 1837, at which time her son JACOB was in his thirtieth year. At the age of twenty-four, on 5 May, 1831, he married ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN, daughter of DEMPSEY PITTMAN (died 1824) and ABIGAIL JONES, his wife, and took her to the old home, where together they cared for the widowed mother. ADELINE was grand-daughter of ELISHA PITTMAN (died 1803) and his wife ELIZABETH — —, and great-grand-daughter of AMBROSE PITTMAN (died 1787), the son of THOMAS PITTMAN and HANNAH FIELDING, his wife (*vide* p. 419).

Scotland Neck, on the Roanoke River in Halifax County, was near to where the families of BISHOP and CAMP resided and other connections upon the BISHOP side. ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN was born 5 September, 1813, and died 12 March, 1857. Her great-grandfather AMBROSE PITTMAN was a landowner on Beech Swamp and Fishing Creek in Edgecomb County. His wife was MARY ANN STREETER, but whether she became his wife before he left Virginia, or after he took up his abode in Edgecomb County, N.C., about 1739 is not known. His mother HANNAH FIELDING was a daughter of AMBROSE FIELDING, a descendant of AMBROSE FIELDING, who came to Northumberland County, Virginia, and died there in 1675. He was a son of the Rev. ROBERT (or ROGER) FIELDING of Horton in Gloucestershire, England, whose young brother WILLIAM resided in Bristol. AMBROSE FIELDING, who first settled in Virginia, by his wife ANNE had a son EDWARD FIELDING, who married WINIFRED CONWAY, by whom he had a son AMBROSE, who married CATHERINE ADKINS, and they were the parents of HANNAH FIELDING, who became the wife of THOMAS PITTMAN. It is worthy of note that the FIELDING family was connected with Gloucestershire, England, and at Horton, where the Rev. ROBERT (or ROGER) FIELDING, FIELDING, or FEILDEN (as the name was variously spelt), was officiating as a clergyman of the Established Church, a branch of the HIGGS family had long been settled, and upon reference to Chapter XVII of this work it will be noted that in the account taken of all the males in Gloucestershire capable of bearing arms for the King in the year 1608, among those in Horton were :

"JOHN HIGGS, husbandman, aged about 20, of medium height and build, suitable to serve as a Musketeer."

"ROBERT HIGGS, husbandman, aged about 20, of medium height and build; a trained soldier at the time of the Survey."

It is possible therefore that a son of one of these Horton HIGGSSES, related to the HIGGS family of Cheltenham and of Colesbourne, in the same county, was the JOHN HIGGS who sailed from Bristol and took up land in Virginia (Surry County) in 1650.

In the early calendar of HIGGS wills at Gloucester, England, are recorded those of ROBERT HIGGES of Horton in 1629, and a LEWIS HIGGES of this place in 1637. The





Horton Parish Registers date from 1567. The Rev. R. FEILDING of Horton had the following sons :

1. Dr. ROBERT FEILDING or FIELDING, born 1620 and died after 1693. He was of Gloucester, England.
2. RICHARD FIELDING, a merchant in Bristol, England, who died in 1667.
3. EDWARD FIELDING, a merchant in Bristol, who died in 1693.
4. AMBROSE FIELDING, who emigrated to Northumberland County, Virginia, became a planter there in 1667, and died in 1675.

He also had two daughters—ELIZABETH, who married a Mr. GWIN of Horton, and MARGARET, who became the wife of WALTER FRYER. The Rev. R. FIELDING matriculated at Balliol College, Oxford. His name is there spelt as "Ffielden". A branch of this family has been seated in the county of Lancashire for the past 550 years at Witton Park, near Blackburn, and claims to be a branch of the ennobled house of DENBIGH. This branch bears Arms :

Argent : On a fess cottised azure, between two martlets in chief, sable, and a rose in base—gules, three lozenges Or.

Crest : A muthatch perched upon a hazel branch fructed, holding in its mouth a red rose slipped all ppr.

Motto : "Virtutis præmium honor".

The ancestor of this family was one HENRIE FEILDEN or FELDEN living in 1480, one of the appointed trustees for the management and appropriation of certain lands bequeathed for the purpose of establishing a Chantry, and Chantry Priest, in the Parish Church of Blackburn.

The members of the FIELDING family who settled in America used the Arms : Argent, on a fess azure three lozenges Or. These arms are upon a wax seal on the will of HENRY FIELDING, who died in King and Queen County, Virginia, in 1712, and are also engraved upon old silver plate.

The seal of EDWARD FIELDING (1684) shows—Or : a lion rampant gules, whilst his father AMBROSE FIELDING's seal upon his will made in 1675 shows—Argent, on a fess azure three lozenges Or. Drawings of ancient silver plate show both coats in use, whilst a framed copy of this Coat of Arms is owned by the family of the late JAMES ALLAN HIGGS of Raleigh, North Carolina, and a descendant of HANNAH FIELDING, who became the wife of THOMAS PITTMAN, shows the Arms as Arg. on a fess azure, three lozenges Or with crest—On a cor a spread eagle with two heads. Motto : "Crescit sub pondere virtus". ("Virtue thrives under oppression").

"The FEILDINGS of Northumberland County, Virginia, appear there in 1662 in the person of RICHARD FEILDING, a merchant from Bristol, England. He bought several large tracts of land in this county, and besides, owned a share in the ship 'Phoenix' and in a mercantile business in Bristol with his brother EDWARD FEILDING. RICHARD died in 1666 unmarried. He left a plantation of a thousand acres with all stock, servants, household goods, etc., to his brother AMBROSE FEILDING, who came out to take possession of his Virginia Estate in 1667. He was a King's Justice from 23 June, 1660, to 4 February, 1675. AMBROSE FEILDING's will was probated 17 November, 1675, and he devised his property to his sons RICHARD, EDWARD, and daughter ANN. His wife ANN received money for a mourning ring. In the inventory of his personal estate he is designated as : 'Mr. AMBROSE FEILDING of Wickocomico Hall, Gentleman'. This inventory names a good lot of household furniture contained in a five roomed house and two roomed detached kitchen ; included in this list were 'eighteen silver spoons and seven large pieces of plate' two of which were marked with 'Ye Ffeilding Armes'.

"Of the sons of AMBROSE FEILDING, RICHARD died unmarried, and EDWARD took a more or less prominent part in county affairs till the time of his death in 1696. He left four sons and two daughters, who have many descendants in Virginia, Kentucky, Alabama, Arkansas, Texas and North Carolina.





"All the original FEILDING papers on file in the Northumberland Clerk's Office were destroyed in the Civil War, but an old letter of Attorney, signed EDWARD FEILDING in September, 1684, is now owned by a descendant; this old letter bears a seal showing 'a lion rampant gules on a field Or'. This is the old Hapsburg seal of the principal family of FEILDING in England—the FEILDINGS of Newham Paddox, Co. Warwick, who were created Earls of Denbigh in 1620. This old letter of Attorney also bears the seal of THOMAS HOBSON—a three-masted ship under full sail. In 1792, a descendant of AMBROSE FEILDING in Spotsylvania County, Virginia, made a drawing from old FEILDING silver then in her possession, and sent it in a letter to her brother, who had gone to Kentucky to live. This drawing and letter are now owned by the recipient's great-grandson, Dr. J. L. MILLER, of Thomas, West Virginia, and shows two shields, one with the lion rampant and the other with the gold lozenges on a blue fess."

*Vide* 'Virginia Heraldica: Being a Registry of Virginia Gentry entitled to Coat Armour with Genealogical Notes of the Families,' edited by WILLIAM ARMSTRONG CROZIER, F.R.S., F.G.S.A. (Virginia County Records Series, vol. v, published by the Genealogical Association of New York).

Such is the record of the ancestry of the wife of JACOB HIGGS (ii) of Scotland Neck, N.C.

JACOB HIGGS was an extremely industrious man and added many acres to the land he had inherited, owning at the time of his death large plantations on the Roanoke River, Halifax County, and the property to which he moved in 1842 called "Shady Rest", about three miles from the town of Scotland Neck, as well as other plantations. He had in his service many negro slaves, and built a new home in front of the old dwelling about 1845. This place was eventually destroyed by fire. It stood in a beautiful grove of oak trees. JACOB HIGGS belonged to the Scotland Neck "Invincibles", N.C. Militia, organized in 1831.

The following is a copy of the interesting Marriage Bond of JACOB HIGGS and ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN:

"State of North Carolina, Halifax County.

"**Know all men by these presents:** That we, JACOB HIGGS and WILLIE HIGGS are held and firmly bound unto MONTFORD STOKES, Esquire, Governor etc., or his successors in office, in the full sum of Five Hundred Pounds, current money, to be paid to the said Governor, his successors and assigns, for the which payment well and truly to be made and done, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents.

"Sealed with our seals, and dated this 30th day of April, Anno Domini 1831.

"The condition of the above obligation is such, that—Whereas the above bonded JACOB HIGGS hath made application for license for Marriage to be celebrated between him and ADELINE F. PITTMAN of the County aforesaid; Now, in case it shall not appear hereafter, that there is any lawful cause or impediment to obstruct the said marriage, then the above Obligation to be void; Otherwise, to remain in full force and virtue.

(Signed) "WILLIE HIGGS.

"Sealed, signed and delivered  
in the presence of  
JOHN H. HARWELL, C. of C."

ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN's mother ABIGAIL JONES was the daughter of JAMES JONES by SARAH, his wife, who lived in Edgecombe County as early as 1738, coming from Virginia. In 1758 Halifax County was formed from Edgecomb County, and therefore the will of JAMES JONES in 1778 is recorded in Halifax County, although they had not removed from their original land. He was descended from MATTHEW JONES, living in Warwick County, Virginia, about 1640, whose wife ELIZABETH ALBRIGHTON was sister to GEORGE ALBRIGHTON, and daughter of FRANCIS ALBRIGHTON. At the time of her





marriage to MATHEW JONES she was the widow of NATIONAL RIDLEY. JAMES JONES, the father of ABIGAIL, was a planter, and he had brothers FREDERICK, JOHN and ALBRIGHTON JONES, also sisters FEREBY PHILLIPS and ANNE HANCOCK.

JACOB HIGGS and ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN, his wife, had the following family of at least seven sons and three daughters :

1. GEORGE ANDREW HIGGS, the eldest son and second child, was born on Friday, 28 March, 1834. He became Captain of "G" Company, Third N.C. Cavalry, C.S.A. He married ALVANIA, daughter of WILLIAM MOORE of Pitt County, by whom he had no issue. He died 5 January, 1878, and was interred in Oakwood Cemetery, Raleigh, N.C.



WILLIE JONES HIGGS, SECOND SON OF JACOB HIGGS OF HALIFAX COUNTY, N.C., BY ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN, HIS WIFE ; BORN 1836, DIED 1894.



WILLIAM ANNE SAVAGE, DAUGHTER OF JOSEPH SAVAGE BY MARTHA LEE JEGGITS HIS WIFE, AND WIFE OF WILLIE JONES HIGGS.

2. WILLIE (WILEY) JONES HIGGS, the second son and third child, was born Tuesday, 22 August, 1836. He married 5 February, 1861, WILLIAM ANNE SAVAGE, daughter of JOSEPH SAVAGE and MARTHA LEE JEGGITS his wife, whom he married in 1840. She was a daughter of JOHN JEGGITS by ELIZABETH LEWIS, whom he married in 1816, and this JOHN JEGGITS was a son of the marriage of WILLIAM JEGGITS and ANN his wife, who were married in 1776, and recorded in the first census of Virginia in 1785. The JEGGITS family was one of the old fashionable families of Hertford County, North Carolina. They were of French (Huguenot) descent, and were people of influence in Bertie County in the early days.

WILLIAM (WILLIA) ANNE SAVAGE was born 26 March, 1843, and died 18 June, 1888, predeceasing her husband WILLIE JONES HIGGS some six years. She was also a descendant of the DICKENS family through the marriage of her grandfather WILLIAM SAVAGE









MR. AND MRS. JACOB WILSON HIGGS AND FAMILY OF GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA.

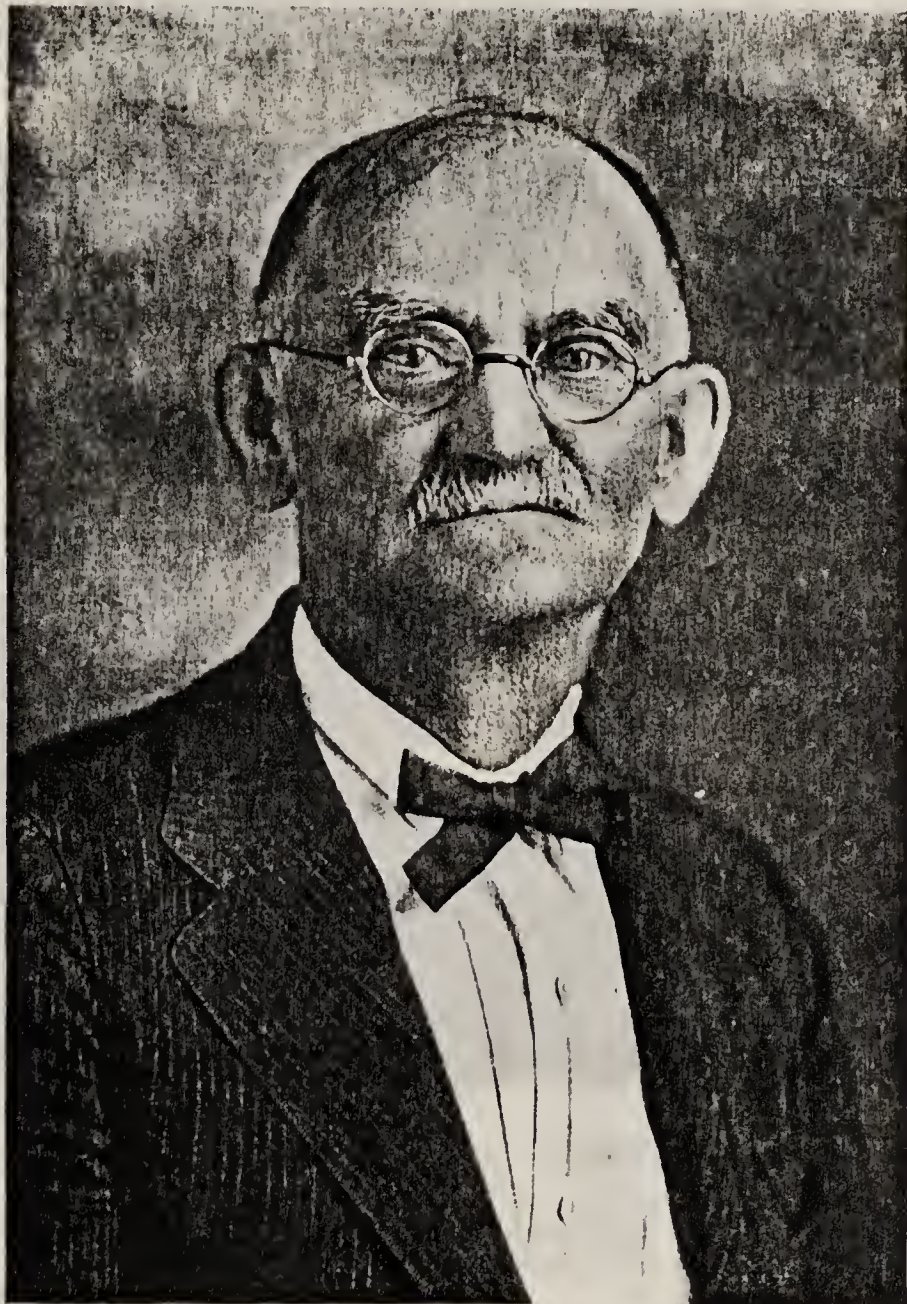
READING LEFT TO RIGHT.—TOP ROW: HELENE HIGGS, NOW MRS. JAMES EUGENE KIRKPATRICK; HORTENSE HIGGS, NOW MRS. PHILIP LORENZO GOODSON; ANNIF GENEVA HIGGS, NOW MRS. HERMAN HENRY DUNCAN.

BOTTOM ROW: JACOB WILSON HIGGS AND SADIE DICKSON, HIS WIFE.





to SUSANNAH, the daughter of WILLIAM DICKENS, one of the four sons of BENJAMIN DICKENS, by ANN, his wife. WILLIAM DICKENS fought in the Revolutionary War. His father BENJAMIN DICKENS was a large slave-owner and wealthy planter of Halifax County. At the outbreak of the Revolutionary War he was too old to serve, but furnished large quantities of supplies. By profession he was a civil engineer, and laid off the town of Tarboro. He was chairman of the Commission that settled the line between Halifax and Edgecombe Counties. He was father of four sons and four



EDWARD BENJAMIN HIGGS (THIRD SON OF WILLIE JONES HIGGS BY  
WILLIAM ANNE SAVAGE, HIS WIFE), A DIRECTOR OF THE GREENVILLE  
COTTON MILL AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE GREENVILLE  
BANKING AND TRUST CO., NORTH CAROLINA.

daughters. One of his daughters became the mother of General LOUIS DICKENS WILSON, one of the leading members of the State Legislature from 1830-1840. When war was started in Mexico he left the Legislature, organized a company, and saw active service in Mexico. While there he died, and his body was brought back to North Carolina for interment. His horse followed behind the waggon with his cavalry boots reversed in the saddle stirrups. On the Tarboro commons is erected a granite monument to the memory of this soldier, civil engineer and legislator, and the county and town of Wilson were so named after him.





Such is the account of the antecedents and kinship of the wife of WILLIE JONES HIGGS, by whom he had three sons and five daughters :

1. JACOB WILSON HIGGS, born 23 March, 1862. He married 18 May, 1898, SADIE DICKSON (who was born in 1879), and by her has issue three daughters :
  - (1) ANNIE GENEVA (HIGGS), born 3 May, 1899. She married HERMAN HENRY DUNCAN 19 June, 1923, and has one son and one daughter :
    1. RICHARD HIGGS DUNCAN, born 29 July, 1924.
    - (1) MARY ANN (DUNCAN), born 17 March, 1926.
  - (2) HELENE (HIGGS), born 29 April, 1901. She became the wife of JAMES EUGENE KIRKPATRICK on 9 April, 1928, and by him has one daughter :
    - (1) SARAH HELENE (KIRKPATRICK), born 21 February, 1929.



AN EARLY PORTRAIT OF MR. AND MRS. ED. BENJAMIN HIGGS OF GREENVILLE, N.C., AND FAMILY.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT.—BACK ROW : LILLIA HIGGS, MARGUERITE HIGGS.  
FRONT ROW : ANNIE HIGGS, E. B. HIGGS, MADELAINE HIGGS, AND ELIZABETH ON KNEE.

- (3) HORTENSE (HIGGS), the youngest daughter of JACOB WILSON HIGGS and SADIE DICKSON his wife, was born 13 August, 1902. She married PHILIP LORENZO GOODSON (born 7 August, 1894) on 24 April, 1924, and by him has three sons :
  1. PHILIP LORENZO GOODSON (ii), born 22 November, 1925.
  2. JOSEPH HIGGS GOODSON, born 30 August, 1928.
  3. WILLIAM STUART GOODSON, born 21 May, 1930.
2. JOSEPH SIDNEY HIGGS, born 14 February, 1864 (bachelor).
3. EDWARD BENJAMIN HIGGS (entered in the family Bible as "EDWIN", but always called and known as EDWARD, born 21 July, 1866. He married ANNIE FELECTA SHIELDS of Scotland Neck, N.C. (born June, 1872), by whom he has had issue four daughters :
  - (1) MARGUERITE ANNIE (HIGGS), born 10 December, 1893. She became the wife of Mr. W. ROBERT EVERETT 2 April, 1924, and died 13 April, 1929.







THE HOME OF EDWARD BENJAMIN HIGGS  
AND FAMILY IN GREENVILLE, N.C.



MR. AND MRS. ED. BENJAMIN HIGGS  
AND (READING FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) THEIR  
DAUGHTERS :  
ELIZABETH HIGGS ; MADELAINE WHITMORE (HIGGS),  
WIFE OF LOUIS BARTON THORNTON, OF  
BUFFALO, N.Y. ; AND LELIA SHIELDS HIGGS.  
(Taken at Camp Scout Haven, 60 miles from  
Buffalo, 21 August, 1930.)



MARGUERITE ANNIE, ELDEST DAUGHTER OF MR. AND  
MRS. EDWARD BENJAMIN HIGGS, AND WIFE OF  
WILLIAM ROBERT EVERETT OF PALMYRA, N.C.  
She died 13 April, 1929. Bolton's American Armory  
is dedicated to her memory.

Portrait at age of 22.





MARGUERITE ANNIE (HIGGS) EVERETT was a graduate of Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C., and of Simmons College, Boston. She was a young woman of beautiful Christian character, and was organist at the Baptist Church in Greenville, N.C., where she was greatly beloved. She was unusually gifted, and rearranged the library at historic old Edenton, N.C., and also at Meredith College. 'Bolton's American Armory' was dedicated to her by the author, Dr. CHARLES KNOWLES BOLTON of Boston.

(2) LELIA SHIELDS (HIGGS), born February, 1896. She is a graduate of Meredith College and of the School of Interior Decoration, N.Y.

(3) MADELINE WHITMORE (HIGGS), born 1900. She married 5 April, 1927, at the Jefferson Hotel, Richmond, Virginia, LOUIS BARTON THORNTON, son of Dr. WILLIAM THORNTON, for many years a well-known physician of Buffalo, New York.

LOUIS BARTON THORNTON is a veteran of the World War; he is on the Faculty of the McKinley School for Boys, and is a supervisor in the Boy Scout Organization of Buffalo. He is a graduate of Amherst College. His wife is a graduate of Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C., and of Simmons College, Boston, Mass.

(4) ELIZABETH (HIGGS), born September, 1904. She is now of the Columbia University, New York City (1930), and is a graduate of Meredith College, Raleigh, N.C.

The three brothers, JACOB WILSON HIGGS, JOSEPH SIDNEY HIGGS and EDWARD BENJAMIN HIGGS, sons of WILLIE JONES HIGGS, have been associated together in business as merchants in Greenville, N.C., for many years, and also as members of the Greenville Baptist Church, towards the erection of which they contributed generously.

EDWARD BENJAMIN HIGGS has been a Deacon of the Church for many years. He has also served for several years in civic affairs as an Alderman of Greenville, and upon the Town Commissions and Water Commission of this city. He is a director of the Greenville Cotton Mill and Vice-President of the Greenville Banking and Trust Company.

His wife, ANNIE FELECIA SHIELDS, received her second name of "FELECIA" from her grandmother, FELECIA YOUNG, the daughter of JOHN YOUNG, who married a daughter of MARMADUKE NORFLEET, in whose family the name of "FELECIA" had been in use for 200 years. FELECIA YOUNG married CHARLES SHIELDS, and their son JAMES G. SHIELDS married MARGARET A. WHITMORE, and they became the parents of ANNIE FELECIA SHIELDS, who married EDWARD BENJAMIN HIGGS.

MARGARET A. WHITMORE was the daughter of HENRY B. WHITMORE and AMELIA SCARBORO, his wife, and the grand-daughter of RANDAL WHITMORE, who married SALLIE HOLLINGSWORTH. The WHITMORE family came from Prince George County, Virginia.

Such are the antecedents of ANNIE FELECIA SHIELDS, the wife of EDWARD BENJAMIN HIGGS.

The five daughters of WILLIE JONES HIGGS and WILLIAM ANNE SAVAGE, his wife, were :

(1) ANNIE MADELINE (HIGGS), born 6 July, 1862. She married JESSE W. BROWN 22 June, 1892, and dying 26 May, 1893, left issue one daughter :

(1) ANNIE MADELINE HIGGS (BROWN), born 21 May, 1893.

(2) FRANCIS LEE (HIGGS), born 19 May, 1872. She died unmarried.

(3) EMILY PITTMAN (HIGGS), born 25 December, 1880. She married THEODORE WARRINGTON SKINNER of Danville, Virginia, 11 May, 1904, and by him has three sons :

1. THEODORE WARRINGTON SKINNER (ii), born 15 April, 1905.

2. SIDNEY HIGGS SKINNER, born 15 January, 1907.

3. JACOB EDWARD SKINNER, born 3 February, 1909.

She married secondly a Mr. B. T. ROUSE.





- (4) SUSAN NOVELLA (HIGGS), born 29 August, 1875. She graduated from Mount de Sales Convent, Baltimore, Md., with the class of 1894. She was winner of the Scholarship Medal, also the Medal for Deportment. On 20 January, 1897, she married JESSE ROUNTREE MOYE (son of Mr. A. D. MOYE and MARTHA JANE BROWN his wife), who was born near Greenville, N.C., 21 October, 1858. The ceremony was performed at Greenville by the Rev. N. M. WATSON.

The MOYE family have resided in what is now Pitt County, North Carolina, for nearly two centuries. They are descended from JOHN MOYE (and DOROTHY DAVIES his wife), a French Huguenot, early settlers of Lynnhaven Parish, Lower Norfolk County, Virginia, in 1636, and who were of the ancient LE MOYNE family of Saint Lo, in Normandy, which produced JACQUES LE MOYNE, the Huguenot artist who explored America with JEAN BIBAULT in 1562, JEANE BAPTISTE LE MOYNE, the founder of New Orleans, La., and his brother PIERRE D'IBERVILLE LE MOYNE, the founder of Biloxi, Missouri.

JESSE ROUNTREE MOYE is also a descendant of JOHN JENKINS, the third Colonial Governor of North Carolina; of Capt. GEORGE MOYE, Revolutionary



ANNIE MADELINE HIGGS BROWN, BORN 21 MAY, 1893, ONLY  
CHILD OF JESSIE W. BROWN and ANNIE MADELINE,  
DAUGHTER OF WILLIE JONES HIGGS, HIS WIFE.

Patriot who gave six sons to America's Cause for Freedom, three of whom were officers; and of JESSE ROUNTREE, Lawyer and Revolutionary Patriot.

Of this marriage there have been two sons and three daughters:

1. JOSEPH SYDNEY MOYE, born 24 April, 1905, at Greenville, N.C. He attended the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington, Va., 1923-1924; was graduated from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C., with the Class of 1927. Member of Sigma Nu, Alpha Psi, and Gorgon's Head Fraternities, and is now working for the Chatham-Phoenix National Bank in New York City.
2. JACOB EDWIN HIGGS MOYE, born 25 April, 1909. He died in infancy 26 June of that year.
- (1) NOVELLA HIGGS (MOYE), the eldest daughter of JESSE ROUNTREE MOYE by SUSAN NOVELLA HIGGS his wife, was born in Greenville, N.C., 29 March, 1898. She is a graduate of St. Mary's School, Raleigh, N.C., 1918. On 23 October, 1924, she married EDWARD SUTHERLIN WILLIAMS (World War veteran) by whom she has a son:
  1. EDWARD SUTHERLIN WILLIAMS (ii), born 20 December, 1928. They reside in Greenville, N.C.
- (2) JESSE ROUNTREE (MOYE), the second daughter of JESSE ROUNTREE MOYE by SUSAN NOVELLA HIGGS his wife, was born 24 January, 1901, at Greenville,







THEODORE WARRINGTON SKINNER,  
OF DANVILLE,  
VIRGINIA.

Married  
11 May  
1904.



EMILY PITTMAN HIGGS, BORN  
25 DECEMBER, 1880. SHE MARRIED  
SECONDLY MR. B. T. ROUSE.



THEODORE WARRINGTON  
SKINNER, JUN.,  
BORN 15 APRIL, 1905.



SYDNEY HIGGS  
SKINNER,  
BORN  
17 JANUARY, 1907.



JACOB EDWARD SKINNER,  
BORN 3 FEBRUARY, 1909,  
graduated University  
of North Carolina, 1930.





N.C. She attended St. Mary's School, Raleigh, N.C., 1918, and graduated from Penn Hall, Chambersberg, Pa., in 1920; a pupil of ALBERT JEANNOTTE, vocal teacher and coach of the Metropolitan Opera in New York City for three years.

- (3) MARTHA EMILY (MOYE) is the third and youngest daughter of JESSE ROUNTREE MOYE by SUSAN NOVELLA HIGGS his wife. She was born in Greenville, 12 December, 1903; a graduate of Salem College, Winston Salem, N.C., in 1924; a member of Theta Delta Pi Sorority. She married GEORGE FORBES HADLEY 17 November, 1926. They reside in Greenville, N.C.
- (5) BELLE JORDAN (HIGGS) was the fifth daughter of WILLIE (WILEY) JONES HIGGS and WILLIAM ANNE SAVAGE his wife. She was born 21 June, 1878, and died 7 September, 1879.
3. JAMES ALLAN HIGGS was the third son and the fourth child of JACOB HIGGS (ii) and ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN, his wife. He was born near Scotland Neck, Halifax County, N.C., on 7 October, 1839, and died in Raleigh, N.C., 5 December, 1928, where he was interred in the Oakwood Cemetery. He married 14 April, 1868, MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD in Warrenton, N.C. She was the daughter of BAILOR RICHARDSON SHERWOOD, and was born in Nottoway County, Va., 13 September, 1849, and died at Raleigh, N.C., on 30 April, 1928, where she was interred in the Oakwood Cemetery.

MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD, who became the wife of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS, was a very beautiful woman of the brunette type; a woman of strong personality and intellectual attainments. She was educated in Dr. Wilcox's school at Warrenton, the family having moved from Nottoway County, Virginia, to Warren County, North Carolina, when she was a girl. Her father, BAILOR RICHARDSON SHERWOOD, had two brothers, AUGUSTINE LEE SHERWOOD and CLAUDIUS SHERWOOD, and they were the sons of ISAAC SHERWOOD of Virginia, by his second wife, MARTHA, the daughter of Capt. JOHN LEE, who was one of the Committee of Safety for York County, Virginia, 1774-76, and was in the Continental Army from 1776-81. MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD's mother was MARTHA THOMAS ELLINGTON of Prince Edward County, Virginia, the daughter of BRANCH HENRY ELLINGTON and his wife, MARY SCOTT WALTON, daughter of WILLIAM SCOTT WALTON, and his wife MARY WOMACK, who was a daughter of NATHAN (?) WOMACK of Cumberland County, Virginia. WILLIAM SCOTT WALTON was the son of GEORGE WALTON by MARTHA HUGHES, son of GEORGE WALTON by MARTHA the daughter of ROBERT HUGHES, whom he married in 1749 in Prince Edward County. GEORGE WALTON, who married MARTHA HUGHES, was uncle of the GEORGE WALTON whose signature is upon the Declaration of Independence, from Georgia, and he was executor of his brother ROBERT WALTON's will, the father of GEORGE WALTON who moved to Georgia on the Savannah River, and the division of his father's estate was made in 1772.

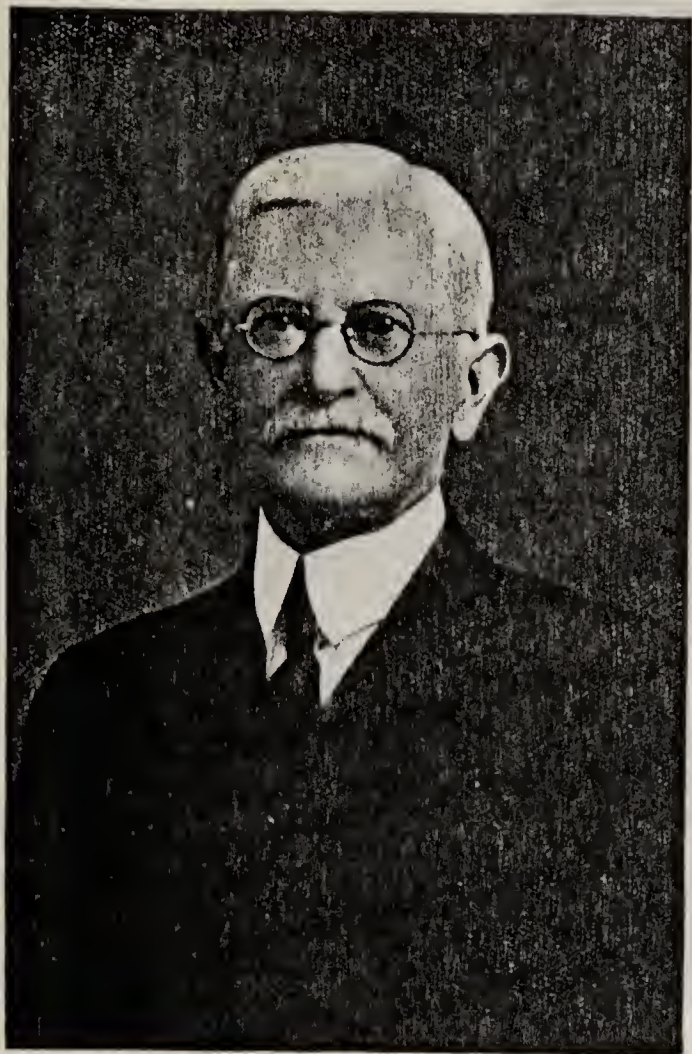
BRANCH HENRY ELLINGTON, the maternal grandfather of MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD, was the son of WILLIAM, who was the son of JOHN ELLINGTON of Prince Edward County, Virginia, a Revolutionary War soldier. Such is the interesting record of the antecedents of the wife of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS, to whom he was married by the Rev. THEODORE KINGSBURY 14 April, 1868, upon his return from the war, after serving with the Confederate Army. In the following year they went to live at Raleigh, N.C., where they resided until their decease, and became widely known and greatly respected. MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON (SHERWOOD) HIGGS celebrated her sixtieth anniversary of her wedding day on 14 April, 1928, by taking her first airplane flight in Atlanta, Georgia, when upon a visit to their son JAMES ALLAN HIGGS, jun.

The life of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS (third son of JACOB HIGGS [ii]) is decidedly interesting. Born as stated previously near to Scotland Neck, Halifax County, N.C., 7 October, 1839, he was educated in the schools of that locality, and at Vine Hill Academy in the









JESSE ROUNTREE MOYE  
OF GREENVILLE, N.C.



SUSAN NOVELLA HIGGS, WIFE OF JESSE  
ROUNTREE MOYE AND DAUGHTER OF  
WILEY JONES HIGGS.



JOSEPH SYDNEY MOYE, SON OF JESSE ROUNTREE MOYE OF GREENVILLE,  
N.C., BY SUSAN NOVELLA HIGGS, HIS WIFE.









NOVELLA HIGGS MOYE, WIFE OF EDWARD  
SUTHERLIN WILLIAMS OF  
GREENVILLE, N.C.



EDWARD SUTHERLIN WILLIAMS (ii), SON OF  
MR. AND MRS. E. S. WILLIAMS, GRANDSON  
OF MR. AND MRS. J. R. MOYE.



JESSE ROUNTREE MOYE, SECOND DAUGHTER  
OF MR. AND MRS. J. R. MOYE.

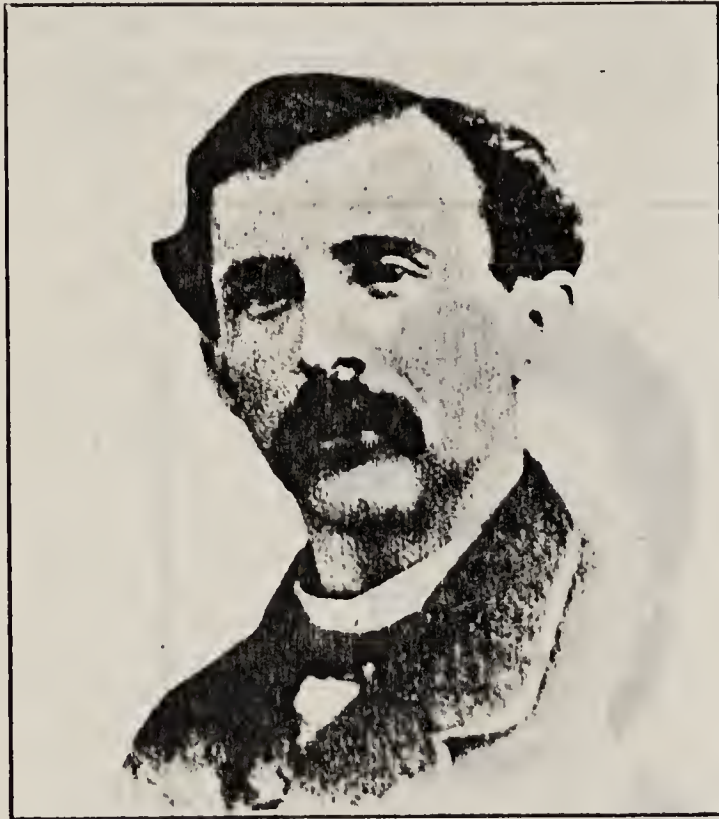


MARTHA EMILY MOYE, WIFE OF GEORGE  
FORBES HADLEY OF GREENVILLE.





town of Scotland Neck. He then worked in connection with the store of HIGGS & PITTMAN, which had been established by his father JACOB for his sons, the boys living in the home built by the father for their residence. He became a member of the original Scotland Neck Mounted Rifle Corps, which was organized 1 November, 1859. (JOHN BROWN had raided Harper's Ferry Arsenal, and troops were being organized.) When war came, this company was mustered in as Company G, 3rd North Carolina Cavalry, and afterwards formed a part of the 41st Regiment of the Confederate States



JAMES ALLAN HIGGS OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA,  
1839-1928, at the age of 28.

His signature at the age of 85.

Army. His eldest brother, GEORGE ANDREW HIGGS, went out as Lieutenant, and was elected to the rank of captain while at Camp Winslow, near to Wilmington, N.C. They furnished their own horses throughout the war, accoutrements, etc., and had their own body servants mounted.

JAMES ALLAN HIGGS was in the Battles of White Swamp, Deep Bottom, Hanover County, Virginia; at the Battle of Yellow Tavern, Davis's Farm, etc. He was also present, and served with Lee's Army of Northern Virginia, and was near Appamattox when Lee surrendered. After the war the brothers returned home to plantations left without slaves to work, and desolation reigned everywhere. During the trying days of





reconstruction they lost their property, and the sons had to begin life over again. GEORGE ANDREW HIGGS was a Justice of the Peace for Halifax Co. JAMES ALLAN HIGGS went to Warrenton, where he engaged in business, and then married MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD, settling in Raleigh, N.C., in 1869. JAMES ALLAN HIGGS then represented a Baltimore firm for twenty years, and then became himself a successful business man and merchant. In 1900 he was awarded the *Cross of Honour* by the United Daughters of Confederacy at Raleigh. He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Raleigh for many years, and passed away in his ninetieth year. He was a man of remarkable personality, and was interested in people and in current events until the end. It was his custom to meet old comrades in the Capitol Square and to talk over the events of the day, and recall the days when he and they had fought side by side



MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD,  
WIFE OF JAMES ALLAN HIGGS,  
at the age of 16.

during the War Between the States. JAMES ALLAN HIGGS had been a crack rider, and when the Battle of Gettysburg was being fought, HIGGS and his company were assigned to the task of guarding the bridge below Ashland in Virginia.

One of the proudest moments of his life was the occasion when he was called upon to come forward on Armistice Day, 1927, then aged 88 years, to receive from Col. WILLIAM J. JOYNER the Cross of Service presented by the United Daughters of Confederacy for his son Lieut. JAMES ALLAN HIGGS, jun., awarded for "*the most distinguished service in the World War by a lineal descendant of a Civil War soldier*". His son, Lieut. JAMES ALLAN HIGGS, who received the Distinguished Service Cross of the United States Army, and the Medal of Honour of the Aero Club of America for distinguished service with the 7th Balloon Company of the 5th Army Corps of the Air Service Balloon Division, was unable to come from Atlanta, Georgia, where he was then stationed, to receive the award in person. With trembling steps the white-haired veteran mounted to the rostrum escorted by two sturdy boy scouts, while the vast audience rose to its





feet with one accord in deafening applause for both the father and the son who had so gallantly served their country, and only did that applause die down when Col. JOYNER began to speak, and to relate the deeds of bravery enacted by JAMES ALLAN HIGGS, jun., at numerous stations up and down the battle front in France. The aged father then expressed his thanks in a few appropriate words and was then escorted to a seat of honour upon the rostrum.

The family of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS and MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD, his wife, were as follows—four sons and four daughters :

1. SHERWOOD HIGGS, born at Raleigh, N.C., educated at Morson & Denson's School for Boys, Raleigh, and at Horner's Military College, Oxford, N.C. He became a prominent merchant in Raleigh for a number of years, and then later went to Atlanta, Georgia, where he became a Cotton Goods Broker. He married LUCY CLARK HAWKINS of Raleigh on 17 April, 1895, at the home of her father, Dr. WILLIAM J. HAWKINS, the ceremony being performed by the Right Rev. JOSEPH B. CHESHIRE, Bishop of North Carolina, and Dr. I. McK. PITTINGER of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Dr. WILLIAM J. HAWKINS was President of the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad, and his daughter LUCY was by his third wife MARY ANN, daughter of ANDREW WHITE of Pottsville, Pa., by FRANCES CLARKE his wife of N.C. (March, 1830). Dr. W. J. HAWKINS's father was JOHN DAVIS HAWKINS, the son of JOHN HAWKINS, who was son of PHILEMON HAWKINS (born 1717 and died 10 September, 1801). He lived first in Gloucester County, Virginia, later moving to Bute County, N.C., in that part which is now known as Franklin County. PHILEMON HAWKINS was a Colonel in the Revolutionary War, and served at the Battle of Alamance 16 May, 1771; he was also a Member of the General Assembly for thirteen years, as well as a member of the Convention ratifying the National Constitution. He married DELIA MARTIN, who died 20 August, 1794.

LUCY CLARK HAWKINS (D.A.R.) is a great niece of Governor WILLIAM HAWKINS of North Carolina. By her SHERWOOD HIGGS had the following family of one son and two daughters :

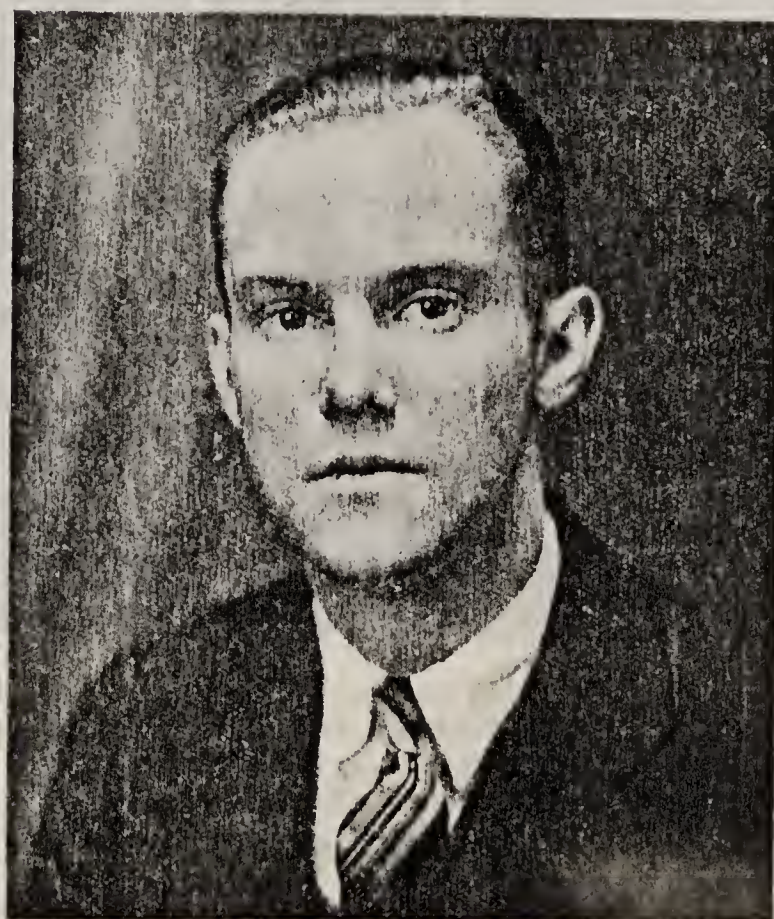
1. SHERWOOD HIGGS, born at Raleigh, N.C., and educated at the Columbia Military School in Tennessee; Sigma Nu Greek Letter Fraternity, Georgia School of Technology. He is now (1930) an officer in the U.S. Merchant Marine.
- (1) LUCY HAWKINS (HIGGS), born at Raleigh, N.C., is the elder daughter of SHERWOOD HIGGS by LUCY CLARK HAWKINS his wife. She was educated in private schools in Atlanta, Georgia, and at Washington Seminary, Atlanta. During the World War she served with the American Red Cross in their hospitalization work, and was also active in welfare work. On 7 July, 1927, she became the wife of NATHANIEL COOPER KENDRICK of Rochester, New York, and now at Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine. Psi U. Greek Letter Fraternity. NATHANIEL COOPER KENDRICK is son of RYLAND C. KENDRICK, and grandson of Dr. GEORGE FRANK COOPER of Americus, Georgia, and Dr. ASAHEL KENDRICK of Rochester, N.Y., one of the Founders of the University of that city. Of this marriage there is one son and one daughter :
  1. THOMAS RYLAND KENDRICK.
  - (1) ANN (KENDRICK).
- (2) FRANCES SHERWOOD (HIGGS), the second daughter of SHERWOOD HIGGS and LUCY CLARK HAWKINS his wife, was born in Raleigh, N.C. She attended St. Mary's School, Raleigh, and is a graduate of the Washington Seminary, Atlanta, Georgia. She became the wife of Dr. CHARLES FLOYD WOODARD, of the U.S. Navy, and of Black Mountain, N.C., now stationed at Parris Island, South Carolina. Of this marriage there is one son :
  1. CHARLES FLOYD WOODARD (ii).
2. ALLAN PITTMAN SHERWOOD HIGGS, the second son of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS and MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD his wife, was born at Raleigh, N.C. He was educated at Morson & Denson's School for Boys at Raleigh and at







J. SHERWOOD HIGGS OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, WITH HIS SON SHERWOOD HIGGS.



SHERWOOD HIGGS, JUN., OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, NOW IN THE  
MERCANTILE MARINE SERVICE OF THE U.S.A. (1930).





Horner's Military School at Oxford, N.C. He died unmarried 8 October, 1912.

3. LLOYD JACKSON HIGGS was the third son of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS and MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD his wife. He was born in 1884 and died 24 June, 1885.



JAMES ALLAN HIGGS (ii), FIRST LIEUTENANT, 3RD BALLOON SQUADRON, U.S. AIR SERVICE, AND LATER OFFICER COMMANDING 7TH BALLOON CO.

Awarded Distinguished Service Cross, U.S.A., also Cross of Military Service Overseas of the United Daughters of Confederacy and Medal of Honor-Aero Club of America.

4. JAMES ALLAN HIGGS (ii) was the youngest son of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS and MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD his wife. He was born in Raleigh, N.C., 2 March, 1888, and was educated in the Public Schools of Raleigh; B.E. North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering Arts, Raleigh, 1906;





Master of Engineering, 1910 ; at the State College of Agriculture and Engineering. Kappa Sigma Greek Letter Fraternity ; Phi Kappa Phi (Honorary) ; a member of the American Legion, Atlanta Fraternity, Post No. 1, of the North Carolina Sons of the American Revolution ; of the Army and Navy Legion of Valor, U.S.A. ; of the Atlanta Athletic Club ; Piedmont Lodge # 447 F. and A.M., Atlanta, Georgia ; Scottish Rite Mason, Atlantic Consistory. He was a civil engineer with the Southern Railroad, Western Division, Knoxville, Tennessee. In August, 1917, he volunteered and enlisted at the U.S. Training



LIEUT. JAMES ALLAN HIGGS, OBSERVING "SOMEWHERE OVER FRANCE"  
3000 FEET UP DURING THE WORLD WAR.

Camp at Fort Myer, near Washington, D.C., and volunteered for service in the Balloon Division of the Air Force. He was assigned to the 7th Balloon Company of the 5th Army Corps, and served overseas from 3 December, 1917, to 11 December, 1918.

He received the Aero Club of America Medal (one of the eight only balloon observers to receive this distinction), and he was also awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The following is a copy of the citation for D.S.C. as listed in American Decorations compiled in the Office of the Adjutant-General and as published by the office of the Secretary of War :





" HIGGS, JAMES ALLAN, junior.

" Near Pont-a-Mousson, France, 31 July and 21 August, 1918; and near Gesnes, France, 29 October, 1918.

" R. Raleigh N.C.

" B. Raleigh N.C.

" G.O. No. 126, W.D. 1919.

" First Lieutenant, 3rd Balloon Squadron, Air Service.

" On 31 July, near Pont-a-Mousson, he was carrying on a general surveillance of his sector from his balloon with a French soldier when an enemy plane dived from a cloud and opened fire on the balloon. In imminent danger, he remained in the basket until he had helped his French comrade, after whom he himself jumped.

" On 21 August, in the same sector, he was performing an important mission, regulating fire. Enemy planes attacked and with great gallantry he remained in the basket until his assistant had jumped.

" On 29 October, near Gesnes, he was conducting a reglage from the basket with a student observer. Attacked by enemy planes, after his balloon was burning he would not quit his post until he had assisted his companion to escape. In each of the foregoing instances Lieutenant Higgs at once re-ascended in a new balloon."

His military record (on the reverse side of his Honourable Discharge from the Army) is given here as the official record of his service during the World Conflict :

" At the Office of the Director of Military Aeronautics, Washington, D.C. 9 January, 1919.

" Battles, engagements, skirmishes: With 43rd and 69th Balloon Cos. (French) 15 January, 1918, to 25 February, 1918, on front between Soissons and Rheims, near Pontavert at La Fert-sous-Jouarre and Pont St. Maxence.

" 25 July to 30 August, 1918: Toul Sector near Pont-a-Mousson. Observer 7th Balloon U.S.A.

" 1 September to 20 September: St. Mihiel Battle. Extreme left flank east Sommedieue, attached to 66th Heavy Artillery, 5th Army Corps, and directly behind 15th Colonials (French) and 26th Division, U.S.A., 21 September to 11 November.

" Argonne-Meuse Battle.

" Attached successively to Divisions of the 5th Army Corps as follows: 37th, 32nd and 89th.

" Medals awards: Citation 31 July, 1918, Griscourt, Toul Sector; awarded 27 March, 1919.

" Distinguished Service Cross: Citation 31 July, 1918, at Pont-a-Mousson, Toul Sector; awarded 25 November, 1918.

War service chevrons authorized: Six months' service 23 June, 1918.

" Remarks: Balloon Observer attached to and later in command 7th Balloon Co., U.S.A., during 11 Company operations on the Front.

" Forced parachute jumps account German aeroplane attacks 30 July, 21 August, 17 September and 29 October, 1918."

Was awarded the Cross of Military Service Overseas, by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, 11 November, 1927, as a son of a Confederate Soldier.

Member of St. Luke's Church, Atlanta, Georgia.

Married 5 June, 1913, to MARY CLARE MARBURY, at Reform, Alabama. Issue :

JAMES ALLAN HIGGS (iii), born 3 January, 1915.

CASWELL MARBURY HIGGS, born 15 October, 1921.

Residence: Atlanta, Georgia.

MARY CLARE MARBURY married JAMES ALLAN HIGGS (ii) in Alabama in 1913. She is a direct descendant of RICHARD CASWELL (1729-89), who was first Governor of North Carolina after the Revolution. He was re-elected six





times. "He was surveyor, lawyer, legislator, Speaker of the Assembly, Colonial Treasurer, Delegate to the Continental Congress, President of the Provincial Congress, Brigadier-General, Major-General, Chairman of the Council Extraordinary, Speaker of the Senate, Comptroller-General and Governor, and a man more honoured by the people of North Carolina than any other citizen before or since his day. As a statesman, his patriotism was unquestioned; discernment was quick, his judgment sound; and as a soldier his courage was undaunted, his vigilance untiring and his success triumphant."

Her descent is traced as follows:

RICHARD CASWELL, born in Maryland 3 August, 1729; married MARY McELWAIN, his first wife, 31 March, 1752; died 20 December, 1789. Married in Dobbs County. A monument is erected to him in the centre of the county seat, Kinston (Kingston), a bronze marker erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution, and his grave is marked on his plantation.

WILLIAM CASWELL, Brigadier-General, his son, born 24 September, 1754, married GOROTHA McELWAIN, and were parents of—

WILLIAM RICHARD CASWELL, who married SARAH LYTLE 27 November, 1806 (daughter of General JAMES LYTLE). He died 5 May, 1810, in Tennessee, and by his wife, who died 2 July, 1862, left a daughter:

JANE ELIZA CASWELL (born 16 March, 1808), who married JOHN R. GRUNDY (son of FELIX GRUNDY, Attorney-General and U.S. Senator, Tennessee) 12 May, 1825. She died 7 June, 1887, and her husband passed away 5 June, 1836. Their daughter:

MARY ELIZA GRUNDY, born 1 September, 1826, married PHILLIP H. MARBURY from North Carolina (his second wife), and dying 14 November, 1863, left by her husband, who died 25 July, 1897, a son:

JOHN GRUNDY MARBURY, born 30 May, 1862, and married 28 May, 1889, EULA B. CARSON, daughter of JOHN JAMES CARSON, who served as a Private C.S.A. (mustered into the army by JEFFERSON DAVIS, President of the Confederacy), and was in "D" Company, 12th Georgia Regiment, Doles Brigade. Private CARSON drove the ambulance from the Field Hospital to Guinea Station, Virginia, with General JACKSON, he having been shot by accident by his own men, General JACKSON having been brought from the place where he was shot at Chancellorville to the Field Hospital by T. J. CAPPS of Sneeds Ferry, Onslow County, N.C. Private CARSON was from Pike County, Georgia). Of this marriage was—

MARY CLARE MARBURY, who became the wife of JAMES ALLEN HIGGS (ii), and so the descent of their two children is traced through their mother from the renowned first Governor of North Carolina—RICHARD CASWELL (1729-89).

The four daughters of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS and MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD, his wife, were:

- (1) MARTHA ADELINE HIGGS of Raleigh, North Carolina, Daughter of the American Revolution, Genealogist of the Caswell-Nash Chapter, D.A.R. Registrar of the Johnston Pettigrew Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, American Legion Auxilliare, Episcopalian; she was educated at St. Mary's (Episcopalian) School, Raleigh Mt. de Sales, near Baltimore, Maryland, and was teacher of kindergarten music. She is now connected with the State Government. It is she who has compiled this valuable record of the HIGGS family settled in Maryland, Virginia, Georgia and North Carolina.
- (2) SARAH McDANIEL HIGGS, born at Raleigh, N.C., and died there aged 4 years.
- (3) JESSAMINE MAY HIGGS, born Raleigh. A graduate of St. Mary's School, Raleigh; Southern Conservatory of Music, D.A.R., U.D.C. She married 17 April, 1907, HENRY CASPER WALTER of Washington, D.C. (B.E. Worcester Polytechnic, Professor of Electric Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic, Mass.; Phi Gamma Delta Greek Letter Fraternity; Chapter Pi; Iota, Worcester Polytechnic, Mass.; Professor of Electrical Engineering at the College of Agriculture and Engineering, Raleigh, N.C.; Purdue University, La Fayette, Indiana; now







MISS MARTHA ADELINE HIGGS, ELDEST DAUGHTER OF JAMES ALLAN HIGGS OF RALEIGH, N. CAROLINA, BY MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD, HIS WIFE.



JESSAMINE MAY, THIRD DAUGHTER OF JAMES ALLAN HIGGS AND WIFE OF HENRY CASPER WALTER OF WASHINGTON, D.C.





designing Electrical Engineer with the Fairbanks Morse Co. of Indianapolis, Indiana). The marriage was solemnized by the Rev. Dr. J. McK. PITTEMBERG, of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh, N.C., and of this union two sons have been born :

1. HENRY CASPER WALTER, jun., born 20 September, 1909, in Raleigh, N.C. He died 19 July, 1927, in Indianapolis, Indiana.
2. JAMES SHERWOOD WALTER, born 27 March, 1917.



EMILY GERTRUDE, YOUNGEST DAUGHTER OF JAMES ALLAN HIGGS OF RALEIGH, N. CAROLINA, BY MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD, HIS WIFE, AND WIFE OF GILBERT ELLIOTT SMITH OF SOMERVILLE, NEW JERSEY.

JESSAMINE MAY HIGGS is the second wife of HENRY CASPER WALTER, he having been previously married to Miss EVA DUNBAR of St. Mary City (Ridge), Maryland, by whom he had one son :

1. JOHN HAROLD WALTER, a graduate of Purdue University Class of 1928, and now Assistant System Engineer of the Milwaukee Power & Light Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and married to Miss CHARLOTTE NORTON of Indiana.
- (4) The fourth and youngest daughter of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS and MARTHA (PATTIE) WASHINGTON SHERWOOD his wife was EMILY GERTRUDE HIGGS, born at Raleigh, N.C., and educated at St. Mary's School, Raleigh. She married 22 April, 1908.





GILBERT ELLIOTT SMITH, son of Mr. BEN GORDON SMITH and LOUISE HILL, his wife of Scotland Neck, N.C., and nephew of Mr. PETER SMITH, engineer and builder of the Confederate Ram "Albemarle", used in the War Between the States, 1861-1865. He is a descendant of the Hon. WHITMEL HILL, Bertie County, North Carolina (1743-1797). Delegate (1778-1781) Continental Congress. GILBERT ELLIOTT SMITH is now living in Somerville, New Jersey, and by his wife EMILY GERTRUDE HIGGS has the following family—one son and two daughters:

- I. GILBERT ELLIOTT SMITH, jun., born at Brooklyn, N.Y., 1914.
- (1) PATTIE SHERWOOD SMITH, born at Brooklyn, N.Y., 1909, a graduate of St. Mary's Junior College, Raleigh, N.C.; graduate of Barnard College, Columbia University, N.Y.; Class of 1930.
- (2) JESSAMINE HIGGS SMITH, born at Brooklyn, N.Y., 1917.

Having dealt with the descendants of JAMES ALLAN HIGGS, the third son of JACOB HIGGS (ii), we now return to the fourth son:

4. JACOB HIGGS (iii), who also served in the Confederate States Army during the War Between the States, 1861-1865. Born near Scotland Neck, Halifax County, 10 December, 1841, he was educated at the Vine Hill Academy, and was at Von Brockbrough Military Academy at Catonsville, near Baltimore, Maryland, when he heard that South Carolina had seceded, and went straight from school with other boys to South Carolina and joined the Palmetto Guards, but when the Scotland Neck Mounted Riflemen went out to war they returned to North Carolina, and he enlisted with them 23 April, 1861. On 31 December, 1868, he married SALLIE H. McDANIEL, by whom he had one son:

- I. DEMPSEY PITTMAN McDANIEL HIGGS, who married twice and died 1898.  
After his wife's decease he married a second time to LAURA SORRELL, by whom he had two daughters:

- (1) LAURA HIGGS. She married JAMES IREDELL, by whom she had a son and two daughters:

- I. JAMES IREDELL.
- (1) MARTHA IREDELL.
- (2) ANN.

- (2) JENNIE HIGGS.

JACOB HIGGS (iii) died 12 November, 1882.

5. JOSEPH BENJAMIN HIGGS was the fifth son of JACOB HIGGS (ii) by ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN, his wife. He was born 12 March, 1844. He married MARY DORCAS BLOW of Greenville, Pitt County, N.C. She was a daughter of Dr. WILLIAM BLOW and his wife DORCAS MARSTERS, and died in China 6 February, 1923, while visiting her daughter. JOSEPH BENJAMIN HIGGS was attached to the Signal Corps C.S.A. at Fort Caswell, N.C. Upon the fall of Fort Caswell and likewise upon the fall of Fort Fisher he joined Hoke's Brigade, and was at the Battle of Bentonville, N.C., the last general engagement of the War Between the States. He was wounded, taken prisoner and imprisoned for eight months. He died 4 May, 1888. By his wife MARY DORCAS BLOW he had the following family of one son and two daughters:

- I. JOSEPH BENJAMIN HIGGS (ii), born in Greenville, N.C. He married Miss AVILLA WALLACE of Chicago, Illinois. He died at New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1925, leaving issue one son:

- I. JOSEPH BENJAMIN HIGGS (iii).

- (1) MARY HIGGS, born in Greenville, N.C. She married JARVIS HARDING, by whom she had one daughter:

- (1) MARY DORCAS HARDING.

After the death of her husband she married a second time to PRESTON TYSON on 29 December, 1927.

- (2) ELIZABETH HIGGS, born in Greenville, N.C. She married HAMNER W. WINSTEAD of Rocky Mount, N.C.

6. JOHN QUINCEY HIGGS was the sixth son of JACOB HIGGS (ii). He was born 26 October, 1848, and died 4 September, 1849.





7. DEMPSEY PITTMAN HIGGS, the seventh son of JACOB HIGGS (ii) by ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN his wife, was born 18 October, 1850, and died unmarried 10 July, 1874. He was interred in Oakwood Cemetery, Raleigh, N.C.

The three daughters of JACOB HIGGS (ii) by ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN his wife were :

- (1) MARY JANES HIGGS, born 12 February, 1832. She married Dr. JOHN TURNER POPE 26 April, 1848. Dr. Pope died in 1859, and left the following family of three sons and one daughter :
    1. BENJAMIN AUGUSTINE POPE married ANNIE FUTRELL, by whom he had issue four sons and one daughter :
      1. CARL POPE.
      2. JOHN POPE.
      3. BENJAMIN A. POPE.
      4. HARRY POPE.
    - (1) HELEN, who married Mr. HARRINGTON.
    2. JOHN TURNER POPE married ALMA TURNER.
    3. HENRY (HAL) POPE.
  - (1) MARY (POPE). She married BART. MOORE ARRINGTON, by whom she had two sons and five daughters :
    1. ALFRED W. ARRINGTON. Married SALLIE BRITTLE.
    2. PAUL NICHOLSON ARRINGTON. Married MINNIE BELL.
    - (1) MARY CORNELIA ARRINGTON. Married PAUL TILLERY.
    - (2) CORA LEE ARRINGTON. Married DALLAS HAWKINS.
    - (3) KATE GREGORY ARRINGTON. Married OSCAR K. TAYLOR.
    - (4) HALLIE P. ARRINGTON. Married GEORGE CHURCHILL NELSON.
    - (5) ANNIE BLOUNT ARRINGTON. Married CLARENCE PIERCE.
  - (2) SARAH EMILY HIGGS, the second daughter of JACOB HIGGS (ii) by ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN, his wife, was born 20 June, 1846. She married MARCELLUS MOORE of Pitt County, son of Mr. WILLIAM MOORE, and dying 25 December, 1878, left issue one son and two daughters :
    1. WILLIAM WALLACE MOORE, born 1873 ; died unmarried in Asheville, N.C., aged about 35.
    - (1) MARY BRUCE MOORE, born January, 1867, at Greenville, N.C. She married Judge JAMES DIXON MURPHY, by whom she had three sons and one daughter :
      1. BRUCE MURPHY, died in infancy.
      2. WILSON WALLACE MURPHY, died in boyhood.
      3. MARCELLUS DIXON MURPHY, born 1902.
    - (1) ELIZABETH MURPHY, died in August, 1912, aged 21 years.
    - MARY BRUCE (MOORE) MURPHY, died in 1930.
    - (2) HELEN MOORE, born about 1870. She married JAMES PERKINS of Pitt County, by whom she had three sons :
      1. JAMES PERKINS.
      2. FRANK STUART PERKINS.
      3. WILLIAM MOORE PERKINS.
  - (3) DELLA DANCY HIGGS, the youngest daughter of JACOB HIGGS (ii) by ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN his wife, was born 3 September, 1855. She married LOUIS A. BRYAN, and lived in Vanceboro, N.C., by whom she had six sons and two daughters :
    1. JOHN R. BRYAN. He married twice ; first to ROSA WAYNE, by whom he had three sons and three daughters :
      1. JOHN WILBER BRYAN.
      2. WAYNE CLYNTON BRYAN.
      3. LEVI WADE BRYAN.
    - (1) LILA GRAY BRYAN.
    - (2) MATTHE IRMA BRYAN.
    - (3) ANNE STUART BRYAN.
- JOHN R. BRYAN married secondly MARY GATLIN, and by her has the following issue :
1. KELLEY FERRELL BRYAN.
  - (1) DELLA MAUD BRYAN.
  - (2) SHIRLEY MADARA BRYAN.





2. LOUIS PITTMAN BRYAN (deceased in 1930).
3. JOSEPH MAUD BRYAN.
4. GEORGE SIDNEY BRYAN ; married Miss GATEWOOD TOMBLIN, by whom he has two children :
  1. ELVA LEIGH BRYAN.
  - (1) BETTY JOYCE BRYAN.
5. DEMPSEY PALMER BRYAN.
6. EDWARD LAROM BRYAN.
- (1) MARY ADELINE BRYAN, who became the second wife of EDWARD WAYNE, her deceased sister EMILY STUART's widower, and by him had the following family—three sons and two daughters :
  1. ROBERT ALDERSON WAYNE.
  2. SIDNEY BRYAN WAYNE.
  3. ARTHUR STUART BRYAN WAYNE.
  - (1) MARY ELIZABETH WAYNE.
  - (2) LULA DELLA WAYNE.
- (2) EMILY STUART BRYAN married EDWARD WAYNE, and by him had three sons and two daughters :
  1. PITTMAN WAYNE married SALLIE GOLD HADDOCKS, by whom he has no family.
  2. HILDRED DANCY WAYNE (deceased).
  3. SAMUEL EDWARD WAYNE, died 12 September, 1930, aged 16 years.
  - (1) LUCILLE HIGGS WAYNE. She married JOHN ROBERT JENKINS, by whom she has a daughter :
    - (1) ELIZA STUART JENKINS.
  - (2) EMILY MARGARET WAYNE. She married JOHN ARMISTEAD LAUGHINGHOUSE, by whom she has two daughters :
    - (1) EMILY BRYAN LAUGHINGHOUSE.
    - (2) LYDIA ELIZABETH LAUGHINGHOUSE.

Such are the descendants of JACOB HIGGS (ii) and ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN, his wife.

A most interesting account of the old home life of JACOB HIGGS (ii) and his wife ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN, as told by the late JAMES ALLAN HIGGS (i), their third son and fourth child, who was born there 7 October, 1839, is preserved, and reads as follows :

" On our plantation, all cotton and wool was spun and woven by eight or ten slaves weaving and cutting and making up goods for the other slaves—Mother superintending. They had 400 head of hogs killed each year, which were put in two big smoke houses. All cotton was ginned on the plantation. A blacksmith shop on the plantation did all the work of the plantation and for others in the neighbourhood who had none. There was a tannery where the hides were tanned and shoes made for the slaves, of which there were more than one hundred adults and many young children. There was a shop for wood working, of course, and when any of the slaves died there had to be coffins made, and a certain quantity of timber was seasoned for this—good walnut. The desk my daughter Mattie has was made on the plantation (from this seasoned walnut). I believe this was made on my grandfather JACOB HIGGS's place as my earliest recollection is that my father used it. Each of the young men and young daughters of the family had his, and her, own particular servant, who was given to them when children and grew up with them to wait upon them. We called them our ' body servants '. Mine was named ' Tyrrell '. ' Old Louise ' was the Housekeeper—we called her ' Tiny '. ' Old Alford ' would saddle the old man's (my father's) horse every morning and bring him up, and rode with my father over the farms. One morning after the War, the first of 1866, Pa called Alford and he didn't answer—he had walked away free. ' Old Louisa ' staid on as long as she lived. My mother (ADELINE FRANCES PITTMAN HIGGS) was a devout Baptist, a member of the Deep Creek Baptist Church, attended Lawrence and the Cotton Meeting House Associations and frequently Kehukee Association."





From this record the life on the old plantation near Scotland Neck before the War Between the States can be vividly visualized. It will be remembered that JAMES ALLAN HIGGS's father JACOB HIGGS (ii) succeeded to the old home plantation under his father JACOB HIGGS's will (dated 22 December, 1816), and that JAMES ALLEN HIGGS's great-grandfather, JOHN HIGGS, was one of the three HIGGSES who came into Bertie County from Virginia before 1750, himself a patriot in the Revolutionary War, serving with the Carolina Continental Troops.

As with all wars there is the aftermath of confusion, disorder, loss and the suffering of the masses, so with the War Between the States the whole conditions of the country changed, and very many of the old southern families were practically ruined. With the freedom of the slaves the carrying on of the old plantations became an entirely different matter. The freedom thus brought about caused a heavy shortage in labour, and the whole land suffered under the readjustment. Very many of the old faithful negroes who, as slaves, had learned to devotedly love many of the ancient southern families to whom they had belonged with their children and their forefathers for many generations stayed on, but many of the younger men left, enamoured by an idea of a freedom gained, not wholly beneficial, for in such families as the HIGGSES they had received every possible consideration, and their condition as slaves had been a happy one. On the other hand, the lot of many had been entirely different. The great burden of the readjustment period fell upon the old landowners, and all lost heavily, and the HIGGS family were not exempt. Life had to be started over again. As it was after the Civil War in England, which drove many of the ancestors of these old southern families from the Old Land to seek their fortune "beyond the seas", so it came about after the War Between the States in America very many families were forced to commence life entirely afresh; and has not history repeated itself after the great World War?

However, "blood tells", and the sons of families of high ideals and high principles will ever continue the traditions of the past under the ever-changing conditions which go to make the history of countries, the history of nations, and the history of families, and much may be learned from the history of the HIGGSES in America during the past 250 years.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF TENNESSEE.

Somewhere about 1830 REUBEN HIGGS, the fourth and youngest son of JACOB HIGGS and SARAH BISHOP, his wife, of Halifax County, N.C., and grandson of JOHN HIGGS and JUDATH HARRELL, his wife, went to live in Tennessee, as previously stated, and is said to have died in this State of "spotted fever". They may have left descendants. There were, however, HIGGSES in Tennessee descendants of those in North Carolina in the nineteenth century, and the following account is herein recorded of these:

In the beginning of the record of the HIGGS family of North Carolina the name of one ZACHARIAH HIGGS is given as a son, or grandson, of JOHN HIGGS, who sold his land in Virginia in 1693, and in the records of the State of North Carolina we find the name of ZACHARIAH HIGGS given as living in Granville County, N.C., before 1764, which is the date of his land grant. This ZACHARIAH HIGGS was tax collector in 1788, and was one of the Justices of the Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas Court in 1787. He had a son, JOHN HIGGS, born in 1764, who married in 1795 NANCY DICKINSON at Granville, N.C. This JOHN HIGGS was a Justice in 1796, in 1811 and other years. The name HIGGS appears frequently in the Granville County records, as Justices and Sheriffs, etc., and occupying positions of trust in the county from before 1764 to 1815. There was a LEONARD HIGGS also who married SARAH KITRELL in 1764, by whom he had a son JONATHAN HIGGS. SARAH KITRELL was a daughter of one JONATHAN KITRELL. There





was also a SOUTHERLAND HIGGS, whose name appears in the county and other records. JOHN HIGGS and NANCY DICKINSON, his wife (who was born 19 July, 1772, and died September, 1838), had a family of at least three sons and four daughters as follow :

1. JOHN HIGGS, born 12 June, 1800.
2. ALFRED HIGGS, born 4 May, 1802.
3. WILLIAM HIGGS, born 3 April, 1804.
- (1) ELLA (HIGGS), born 1796.
- (2) POLLY (HIGGS) | twin daughters, born 12 March, 1798.
- (3) BETSEY (HIGGS) |
- (4) NANCY (HIGGS), born 9 September, 1806.

JOHN HIGGS, the father, died about 1815, and his widow NANCY DICKINSON HIGGS married secondly Mr. A. THOMPSON.

ALFRED HIGGS, the second son of JOHN HIGGS by NANCY DICKINSON, his wife, left North Carolina and settled in Martin, Tennessee. This ALFRED HIGGS married and had two sons :

1. JOHN ANDREW JACKSON HIGGS, born in 1840, living in 1921 in the State of Washington, U.S.A. He married, and has a son and a daughter :
  1. VANCE J. HIGGS, who is Assistant U.S. District Attorney at St. Louis, Missouri.
  - (1) A daughter who married Mr. B. F. HALL, by whom she has a son, who is—
    1. Judge FRANK P. HALL of the Supreme Court of Tennessee.
2. THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGGS, born in 1844, second son of ALFRED HIGGS, married and has a son :
  1. B. F. HIGGS, of Martin, Tennessee.

POLLY HIGGS, one of the twin daughters of JOHN HIGGS and NANCY DICKINSON, his wife, married WILLIS JOHNSTON (in the North Carolina Militia), and from this marriage is descended Mrs. SIDNEY SCALES CROCKETT, of the Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee. BETSEY, her twin sister, married a Mr. DENT.

There are HIGGSES in Memphis, Tennessee, to-day, namely CLARENCE HIGGS and HOMER LEE HIGGS, who may be descendants of either REUBEN HIGGS and ELIZA J. HIGGS, his wife, or of ALFRED HIGGS, the second son of JOHN HIGGS of Granville County, N.C., and NANCY DICKINSON, his wife.

## THE HIGGS FAMILY OF INDIANA.

It is evident from information contained in the Connersville Library, Indiana, that at least some of the HIGGSES settled in this State are descendants of the North Carolina family.

GEORGE HIGGS, living four miles west of Brookville, Franklin County, Indiana, in 1842, was a son of WILLIAM HIGGS of North Carolina. This GEORGE HIGGS married MELINDA IRWIN, and by her had a son, JOHN MILTON HIGGS, who was born 5 April, 1842. He married Miss KATE T. DAVIS, who was a daughter of Col. A. M. DAVIS, a Civil War veteran. JOHN MILTON HIGGS was a Democrat in politics, and was appointed a postmaster in this State by President CLEVELAND, in which capacity he served for seven years.

The will of one WILLIAM HIGGS, sen., is recorded in this State, dated 28 September, 1850. He bequeathed his property to his sons, and provided that each son was to divide his portion with his sister named in the will as follows :

1. WILLIAM M. HIGGS and his sister ANNA LACEY HIGGS.
2. STEPHEN HIGGS and his sister SARAH LACEY HIGGS.
3. GEORGE HIGGS and his sister ELIZABETH MOORE HIGGS.
4. JOHN HIGGS and his sister FRANCES LACEY HIGGS.

The will is witnessed by GEORGE HOLLAND, JOHN HILT, and MORRIS J. WILLIAMS.





It will be remembered that JOHN HIGGS, who settled in North Carolina from Surry County, Virginia, before 1750, married JUDATH, daughter of JOHN HARRELL, and that they had a son named JOHN, who died previous to his mother's decease in 1795, and that the division of the property due to him went to his children, five sons and five daughters.

WILLIAM, the eldest son of JOHN HIGGS by JUDATH HARRELL, his wife, married DELILAH MOORE 17 January, 1782.

JOHN, the second son, married MILLIE MOORE 16 May, 1786, whilst the eldest daughter SARAH married one JOHN HOLLAND. It is therefore most significant that in the foregoing will of WILLIAM HIGGS, sen.; of Franklin County, Indiana (1850), he mentions a daughter ELIZABETH MOORE HIGGS, and that the will is witnessed by one GEORGE HOLLAND. His eldest son WILLIAM M. HIGGS was in all probability "WILLIAM MOORE HIGGS".

It is therefore most likely that WILLIAM HIGGS, Sen., of Franklin County, who died in 1850, was the WILLIAM HIGGS, second son of WILLIAM HIGGS and DELILAH MOORE, his wife, born in 1792 in North Carolina.

In 1830 Mr. THURMAN HIGGS of Franklin County was appointed guardian of WILLIAM HIGGS, SAMUEL HIGGS and ELIZABETH HIGGS, the children and heirs of GEORGE HIGGS and SARAH FISHER, his wife, deceased. The Court required a bond in the sum of \$100, and approved of GEORGE HIGGS as security. (Bond executed in November term of Court, 1930.) This GEORGE HIGGS who married SARAH FISHER was in all probability a son of GEORGE HIGGS and MELINDA IRWIN, his wife, and a brother of JOHN MILTON HIGGS, who was born in 1842.

There is a family of HIGGSES living in Indianapolis, Indiana, who came from Tennessee by way of Arkansas, settling in that State before finally moving into Indiana.

The ancestor of this family was Major JOHN ALLEN HIGGS, a native of Tennessee, who served with the Confederate Army, and who was born 18 February, 1830. Major JOHN ALLEN HIGGS had four sons and two daughters, as follow :

1. WILLIAM ALLEN HIGGS, born in Tennessee, married and had a son :
  1. HERMAN C. HIGGS, now of Indianapolis, Ind.
2. CLARENCE J. N. HIGGS.
3. T. E. W. HIGGS.
4. JOHN F. HIGGS.
- (1) MADORIA HIGGS.
- (2) MARY L. HIGGS.

There is every possibility that Major JOHN ALLEN HIGGS (born 18 February, 1830) was a son of JOHN HIGGS, born 12 June, 1800, the eldest son of JOHN HIGGS and NANCY DICKINSON, his wife. This JOHN HIGGS (who married NANCY DICKINSON in 1795) was a son of ZACHARIAH HIGGS, a Justice of the Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas Court in Granville County, N.C., in 1787, who was a son or grandson of JOHN HIGGS, who sold his land in Virginia in 1693, and who had settled there from Bristol, England, in 1650.

#### THE HIGGS FAMILY OF NEW YORK.

Early in the nineteenth century CHARLES HIGGS of West Hanney, Co. Berks, England, emigrated to the United States according to the parish register, wherein is a pencil note after the entry of his marriage to HANNAH HATTON 26 November, 1820, to this effect : "Went to America". Their location in the United States is not known, nor whether they had descendants, but it may be that the Rev. CHARLES HIGGS, Baptist Minister of Arcade, New York, is a descendant.





Another member of the HIGGS family, but of the Cornish branch, settled in the United States about the middle of the nineteenth century, namely JOSEPH INKERMAN HIGGS. He was the second son of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS, R.N., of Lanlivery, Co. Cornwall, and became a naturalized citizen of America and a member of the American Bar. He married KATE PENTUATH, by whom he had at least one son—

I. HENRY JOSEPH HIGGS,

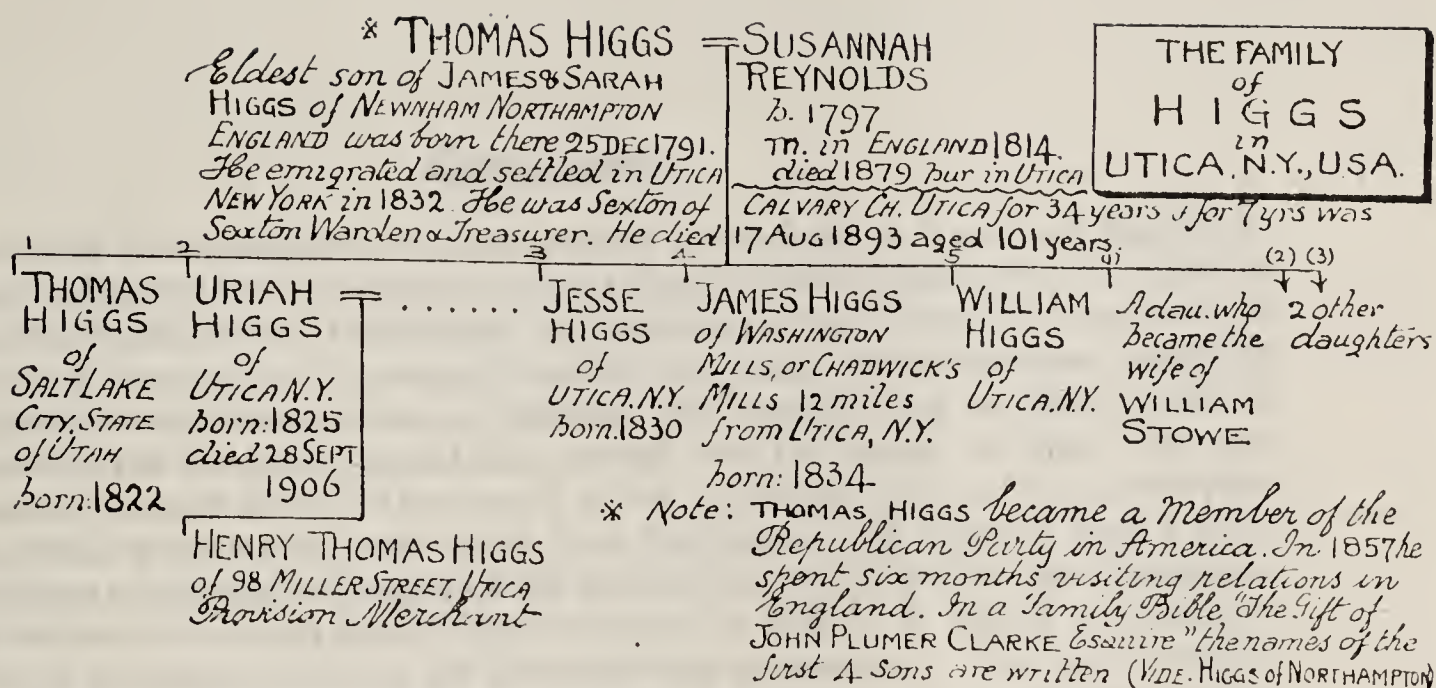
who was educated at Magdalen College, Cambridge.

JOSEPH INKERMAN HIGGS was a grandson of SAMUEL NICHOLAS HIGGS of Whistow, in the parish of Lanlivery, Co. Cornwall, and a great-grandson of WILLIAM and ELIZABETH HIGGS of Whistow, and who owned an estate at Fenton Pitts, in the parish of Lanivet (*vide* HIGGS Family of Cornwall, England).

Yet another HIGGS of New York in 1930 is P. JACKSON HIGGS, whose father came from Worcester, England, and whose great-uncle was WILLIAM HIGGS, Esquire, the Sheriff of London (*vide* HIGGS Families of Worcestershire and of Hertfordshire). The ancient Arms and Crest were in use by this branch of the family.







THE FAMILY  
of  
**HIGGS**  
in  
VERMONT  
U.S.A.

**THOMAS HIGGS**  
of HIGHER PENNANT parish of  
LANLIVERY (Vide: Chapter XVI  
The Higges of Cornwall)

**CHARLES HIGGS** = **EVA OLLIVER**

of  
MONTPELIER, VERMONT.  
born: 16 FEB 1868  
bapt: 12 MAY 1868  
at LANLIVERY CORNWALL  
ENGLAND Settled in the U.S.A  
died: 30 SEPT. 1918.

born: APRIL 1872  
mar: 25 DEC. 1893

1	2	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	
ALFRED CHARLES OLLIVER HIGGS born: 13 Nov. 1906	WILFRED HENRY HIGGS born: 16 May 1912	LUA = BELLE R. EDSON born: 11 JAN. 1895 mar: 15 SEPT 1920	ROBERT MILDRED born: 2 FEB 1898 mar: 10 DEC 1926	ALLAN R. JOHNSTON born: 29 MAY 1899	OLIVE CAROLINE born: 9 JAN. 1899 died: 1 MARCH 1915	ETHEL MAUDE born: 27 JUNE 1901 died: 1 JULY 1930	BERTHA ELIZABETH born: 23 JAN. 1903 died: 1 JULY 1930	MARY LOUISE born: 23 APRIL 1904 mar: 10 Nov 1928	LENA ANN born: 20 JULY 1905 died: 18 FEB 1932
									HOWARD REED born: 23 JAN 1904
									BARBARA ANN born: 24 FEB 1910 died: 22 FEB 1911
									RUTH born: 24 FEB 1910 died: 22 FEB 1911
									RACHEL born: 24 FEB 1910 died: 1 OCT. 1918





## Conclusion.

In concluding this record of the HIGGS Families of South Stoke, Oxon, and Thatcham, in the county of Berks, together with the account given in these pages of those families of this patronymic found in other Oxfordshire and Berkshire villages, those in other counties of England, and those in the "Dominions beyond the Seas", including some records of families settled in the United States of America, the compilers by no means claim to have covered all the available ground for research into the history of those who bear this honourable yeoman name. This record is but *a guide* to those of this patronymic who desire to know something more about their forefathers, and will save such a great deal of unnecessary expense in going over the ground covered by the late Mr. FREDERICK HIGGS and the writer a second time and that covered by Miss M. A. HIGGS in relation to the families of the name settled in the United States of America. There can certainly scarcely be a family of HIGGES to-day some of whose ancestors are not given within these pages.

### REGARDING THE USE OF THE HIGGS ARMORIAL BEARINGS.

It is not generally realized that since the reign of *Henry V* (1413-1422) the improper use of arms has been a statutory offence, and many prosecutions have been brought against the bearers of unauthorized arms. For example, the law was recently put into force to stop the erection in Glasgow Cathedral of fictitious coats of arms, and also early in this century the Treasury authorized the prosecution of the magistrates of a Scottish Royal Burgh for using unrecorded armorial insignia.

The mere fact that an individual possessed a painting of a coat of arms, used it upon his family plate, or as a bookplate or seal, or had it put upon his gravestone, is not proof that he had a right thereto. Proof of right must either be found in the Herald's College, or be established by authenticated pedigree direct from an armiger.

It is said that the family of HIGGES won coat armour as early as the reign of *Edward II*. The first record found by the writer is that of the arms recorded in use by one SIMON DE HEGHES from the impression of an old seal in 1336, namely:

"A chevron between three boars' heads"

(*vide* De Gray Birch Seals in the British Museum). This description, however, was ambiguous, both as to the arms and residence of the user. Subsequently these arms were found to be those of a family of HEGHES or HEIGHES living in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries at Flood Place, Alton, Co. Hants (*vide* pages 7 and 336). The next record is that of the arms of one SYMOND HEGGYS (SIMON HIGGS), given upon a Roll of Arms (*temp. Henry VI*, 1421-71), 'Harl. MSS.', 2169, namely:

"Silver, a cheveron gules, between three lodged harts of gules".

The description can hardly be termed "Heraldic", but is the same as "Argent, a chevron between three bucks lodged gules"—that given in the armorial bearings confirmed to





THOMAS HIGGES of Colesbourne, Co. Gloucester, in 1623, Lord of the Manor of that place.

It was customary in ancient days for the younger sons to difference their arms to that of the senior branch by changes of tincture (or colour), by the addition of a "bordure", and even by distinct charges, so that it is possible that the SIMON DE HEGHES (probably related to the PETER DE HEYGHEZ living in 1392 mentioned in the account of the HIGGS Family of Heckfield, Co. Hants) may have been the original grantee of armorial rank, and that SYMOND HEGGYS, recorded upon the Tudor Roll of Arms, was his descendant.

Prior to the time of *Richard III* (who was crowned King 6 July, 1483, and killed at the Battle of Bosworth on 22 August, 1485), the King in person decided all heraldic questions, but when *Richard III* ascended the throne he founded the Heralds' College to control the use of armorial insignia under the Crown. This resulted later in the *Heralds' Visitations of the Counties*, the recording of the pedigrees throughout the Kingdom in the books of the College, and the confirmation of arms to those who could show their right to their use by descent. Many there were who disclaimed through their inability to produce such proof as satisfied the authorities, or refused to pay the regulated fees. Others obtained grants of arms in accordance with their social standing, and thus it came about that no armorial bearings to-day are valid unless there can be found a record in the books of the College of Arms.

Many branches of the HIGGS family recorded in these pages are found to be using the ancient arms of SYMOND HEGGYS, as did the Rev. Dr. GRIFFITH HIGGS of South Stoke, Oxon, Chaplain to *King Charles I*, and his nephew NICHOLAS HIGGS of Henwick, by Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, though upon investigation no record of the pedigree of the HIGGES of South Stoke, or of Thatcham, was to be found in the books of the College, and therefore their use of them, and use by the descendants of these branches, has been "without authority", and as a matter of fact, among those HIGGES of Gloucestershire who "disclaimed" at the Heralds' Visitation of that county in 1623, at the City of Gloucester, were THOMAS HIGGS of Cheltenham and RICHARD HIGGS of Norton. Just which THOMAS HIGGS "of Cheltenham" this was it is difficult to say, as there were a number of this Christian name. The only family of HIGGES in Gloucestershire whose pedigree and arms were entered in the books of the College were the HIGGES of Colesbourne. WILLIAM HIGGS, Gentleman, Lord of the Manor of Colesbourne, and son of THOMAS HIGGS of Cheltenham, Foreman of the Jury of Tenant in 1561 (3 Elizabeth), appears at the head of the recorded pedigree, and so it would appear that the arms in long use by his family were confirmed to him and his descendants when his son THOMAS returned the record in 1623, and the right was thus *only recorded to this branch*, whilst many other branches of the same family continued their use unauthorized, as will be found in reading the records contained in this work.

It was this fact that led the compiler to request his uncle Mr. GEORGE HIGGS of Hove, Co. Sussex, to sign a Memorial to the Earl Marshal for an authorized use of the arms and crest as used by the HIGGS family of South Stoke, a branch of the Gloucestershire family, and this was granted, with the addition of the Silver (Tudor) Rose in the Arms, and upon the Crest, to all the descendants of CALEB HIGGS of Cold Ash, Thatcham, Co. Berks; and these descendants at least have the satisfaction of knowing that by the use of these arms they are not breaking any Statute of the Realm, and that their pedigree is entered in the books of the College founded for this purpose by *Richard III*. There are many branches of the old Gloucestershire stock who are in exactly the same unfortunate position in relation to their use of the arms by lawful authority as the writer's family were until recently, simply because their ancestors failed to appear before the Heralds at the times of their various Visitations of the counties, to record their pedigrees,





and prove their right to armigerous rank—and the title of “ Gentleman ”—*by descent from the original grantee.*

The practice of using Armorial Bearings without legal authority cannot be too strongly deprecated, for such are just as much the property of the grantee and his descendants as the land they own, and have been granted as honourable ensigns of distinction. What a stir throughout Great Britain to-day there would be if another Visitation of the counties took place !

To such who have for centuries used the ancient coat of arms in use by SYMOND HEGGYS, and naturally will feel resentment at any question as to their right, it can only be pointed out that legal right must be established by proven descent from the original grantee. Many there are whose ancestors (by their failure to record their pedigree and their right to these arms) have forfeited to their descendants that proof of right, or title deed, which every Britisher finds a satisfaction in possessing ; therefore the only course to pursue is that taken by the HIGGS family of Cold Ash, in the parish of Thatcham, Co. Berks, in whose case the very slight additional change to the arms and crest in long use by the HIGGS family of South Stoke, Oxon, and Thatcham, Co. Berks, was made. The College of Arms authorities will be found to be in full sympathy with such.

#### THE TITLE “ GENTLEMAN ”.

This ancient designation indicated that a man was of gentle birth—one who was entitled by grant or descent to bear armorial insignia. It was a title which even in the sixteenth century was much abused, and at the various Visitations of the Heralds the following words are frequently found opposite to a man’s name—“ No Gentleman ”—which in modern days would have a very different interpretation. The great majority of such so recorded occupied local positions of honour and esteem, and frequently were using armorial insignia to which they thought they were entitled, and upon not being able to show proof of their right to such (being perhaps descendants of a brother of the original grantee, to whom armorial bearings had not been granted), and declining to apply for legal authority to armigerous rank or to pay the fees to the Crown, they had to be thus designated.

#### THE TITLE “ ESQUIRE ”.

Perhaps of all the orders of chivalry, that of “ Esquire ” is the most misused in modern days, and to a most ridiculous extent. Legally this ancient title is confined to the eldest sons of the younger sons of Peers, and their eldest sons in perpetual succession ; the eldest sons of the sons of Viscounts and Barons ; the sons of Baronets ; and the eldest sons of Knights.

This title is also granted to “ Captains in the Wars ”—that is to say Commissioned Officers, Kings of Arms and Heralds, Sheriffs of Counties, Justices of the Peace, and Deputy-Lieutenants, and to certain members of the Royal Household. Mayors are entitled to the rank of “ Esquire ”—but only during their term of office unless otherwise entitled. By courtesy, barristers, members of the Diplomatic Service, and graduates of Oxford, Cambridge and Dublin *may* call themselves “ Esquires ” ; and in modern times there has grown up a practice by which doctors, solicitors, members of the Royal Academy, landed proprietors and the sons of clergymen are regarded as being entitled to the same rank. Even in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries Lords of Manors were so designated. Thus the legal right to these much-abused orders of chivalry is given.





## "YEOMAN" AND "HUSBANDMAN".

There is a difference to be observed in the terms "Yeoman" and "Husbandman", the latter meaning a farmer who merely rents his land upon a tenancy, whereas the yeoman held his land by "copyhold", and such land within a manor was farmed by the same family for centuries.

The Yeomen of England have been the very backbone of the country throughout all ages. As a class they have been those who have lived the nearest to Nature. In the tilling of the soil, in the production of the crops, in the raising of the cattle and all livestock of the farm they have had to make a scientific study of their tasks. This has brought out *the very best in men*, and in their occupation and their toil they have learned lessons from the Great Creator which no other class of men in the country could learn. The Yeomen of England have therefore, as a class, been able to provide the country with leaders in every walk of life.

May this record of one of the Yeoman Families of England be an inspiration to all its descendants in all parts of the world to follow on worthily in the steps of their forefathers! A few blank pages have been provided so that subsequent generations, who may value this record, may keep their line of descent entered up in this family history, and also that any mistakes which may have been made in the compiling of this book may be noted.

W. MILLER HIGGS.





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